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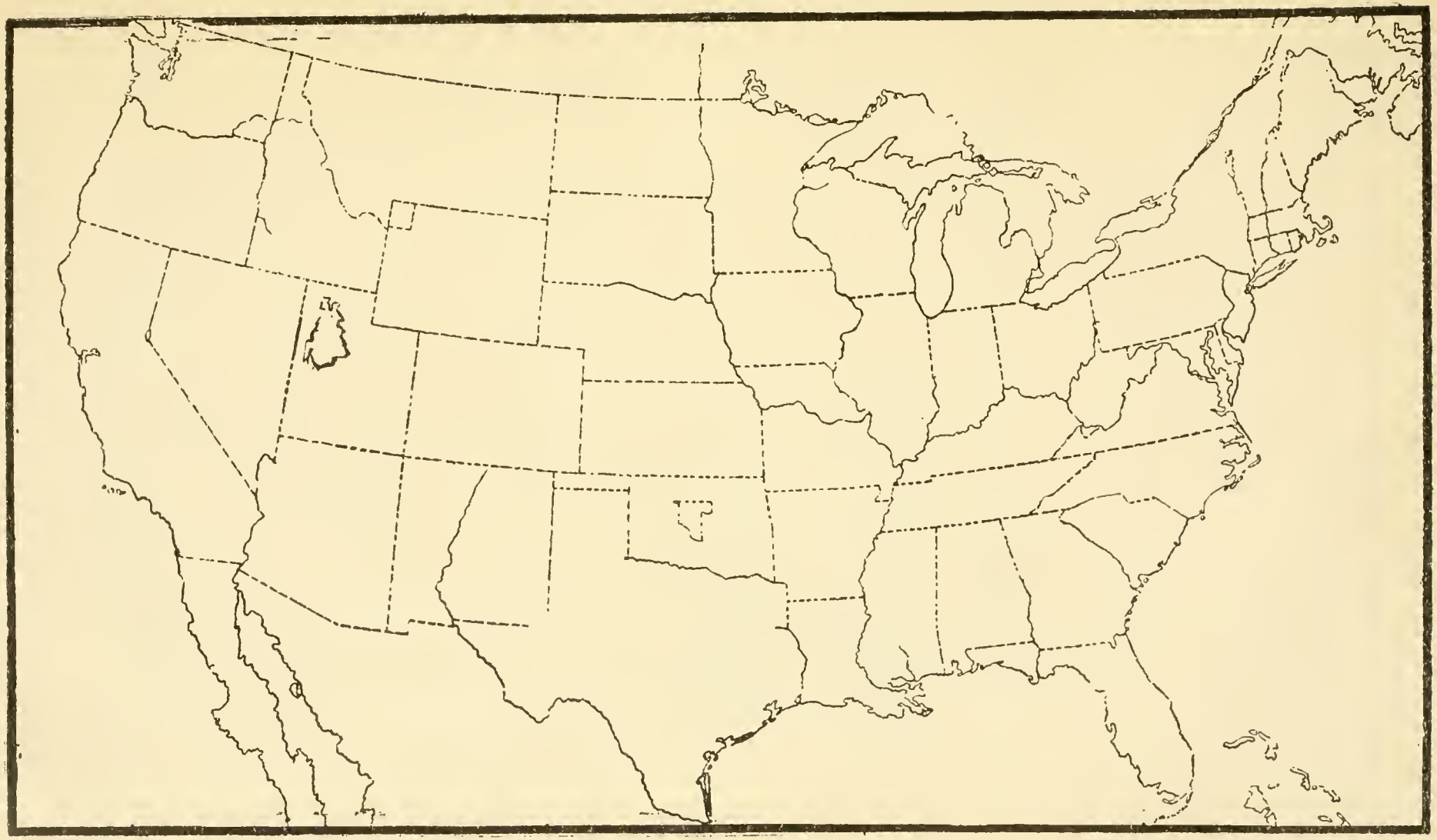

MAP OF THE UNITED STATES

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ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.

WHY WE VOTE

A Discussion of the Government of the State of Washington

BY

HORATIO ALLING, L. L. B.

1900

THE WESTLAND PUBLISHING CO.,

Olympia, Washington

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PREFACE

The study of civil government as persued in our schools has had little or nothing to do with local government in its various forms. This has seemed to the author a serious mistake. A knowledge of matters connected with the general government cannot be more important than an understanding of those forms of local government which stand nearest to the scholar. This little book is intended to afford a measure of information of a practical character concerning our own forms of county and state government, and at the same time serve in a way as an introduction to the general subject of civics.

With a view of developing an interest which the subject itself might not excite in the minds of scholars of the sixth grade, a coloquial style has been adopted and a slight thread of story interwoven. These features have been less relied upon in the latter portion of the book, not only to save space, but with the idea that the discussion as it advanced would develop an interest of its own.

Educators will note that the usual deductive method followed in preparing text books upon this subject has been reversed. The scholar's attention is first directed to those matters that stand nearest to him. From the known or partially known, the discussion proceeds along the lines naturally followed by the immature mind to the unknown. In this manner a study of the concrete gives form and substance to the abstract propositions that follow.

The author believes that there will be found in this little book not a few matters of real importance concerning our own county and state government of which very many otherwise well informed citizens are ignorant.

CHAPTER I.

Introduction.

TOMMY'S HOME. Tommy was a bright little boy of nine, who lived with his parents on a farm a few miles from a small town in Western Washington. From the broad piazza of the farm-house Tommy could see in the distance the blue waters of Puget Sound, over which he often watched the ships pass.

There were ships with sails that carried lumber to San Francisco and South America, big steamers that came from Japan, loaded with rice, tea and silks, steamers sailing for Alaska with gold hunters and their supplies, and others returning from the north, laden with millions of golden treasure.

His father had taught him to use a field glass in looking at the ships, and Tommy had learned to know the Union Jack that flew from the British vessels, the white flag with the full red moon in the center that the Japanese ships carried, and the Stars and Stripes that marked an American vessel.

Tommy was a thorough little patriot, and he thought the flag of his own country the most beautiful of all the flags that fluttered from the mastheads of the passing ships.

Behind the farm house, if he looked to the north, Tommy could see Mt. Baker, with its white hood on, all the year round, and if he faced the south he could see Mt. Rainier, tall and silent, wrapped in a white sheet like a giant ghost. Between them stretched a long, high wall — the Cascade Range — green

with millions of great fir trees, but so far away that the mountain sides looked like grassy slopes.

Tommy lived with his father and mother, his sister Dora and his brother Sam. He loved his home, thought his mother the kindest and most beautiful woman in the world, and his father the wisest and strongest of men. He loved his sister Dora, for she was only a year the elder and his constant playmate, but Sam, who was sixteen, and almost a man, was his ideal. He wanted most of all to be like Sam, and longed for the day when he could wear long trousers and drive the farm team alone.

TOMMY AT THE ELECTION.

One day in November Tommy went to town with his father, and saw some things that puzzled him greatly. He had often been there before, but he had never seen the people act so strangely. He was a quiet little lad, and not much given to asking questions, but he kept his eyes open, and very little escaped his notice. Still he could not make out what it all meant. A great many men were gathered in the one street of the village, some standing in groups and talking earnestly, and others hurrying to and fro as if on the most pressing business.

There was a crowd in front of the Town Hall, and Tommy wondered what they were doing. While his father was making some purchases Tommy strolled in the direction of the Town Hall, and found that in front of the building a rope had been stretched half way into the street, making an enclosure which was open at one end. The crowd gathered about the enclosure, and the Town Marshal, who stood near, permitted but one man to go in at a time.

At first Tommy thought it might be some kind of a show, though it seemed strange to him that no women or children

were there. Curious to find out what it meant, he edged through the crowd and stood for some time close to the rope.

Before long he noticed Mr. Mills, the grocer, about to enter. Mr. Mills kept the store at which Tommy's father usually traded, and Tommy felt quite well acquainted with him. When Mr. Mills passed through the opening into the enclosure, Tommy slipped under the rope, and in a moment was at his side.

"Hello, Tommy!" said Mr. Mills. "What are you doing here? Are you going to vote?"

Tommy said nothing but kept close to his friend and with him entered the Town Hall.

There was a long table behind which sat several men, some of them writing. One of the men handed Mr. Mills a long and rather narrow piece of paper printed on one side, at the same time calling out, "Richard D. Mills, No. 372."

Mr. Mills took the paper and went into one of the several little places built against the wall that looked to Tommy a good deal like stalls. They are properly called voting booths, as he afterwards found out.

In a few minutes Mr. Mills came out of the booth and handed his paper, nicely folded, to one of the men at the table. The man who received it passed it to another and called out, "Richard D. Mills, No. 372." The paper was then slipped through a small opening in a big tin box.

While Mr. Mills stood chatting for a few minutes with the men at the table, a number of others entered the room. Each in his turn received a slip of paper like the one given to Mr. Mills. With this in his hand each man entered one of the little booths and on coming out handed the neatly folded paper to the

man at the table, who slipped it into the big tin box. In the meantime some of the men at the table were writing a list of the names of those who had voted.

Tommy watched it all with great interest, but was as much puzzled as before to understand what it meant. When Mr. Mills left the Town Hall, Tommy went with him, and failing to find his father easily, went at once to the long shed where the team was hitched. Before long his father appeared with his arms full of bundles.

"Well, Tommy," said Mr. Grant, "where have you been? I wanted you to go with me when I went to vote, but you had disappeared."

"Oh," replied Tommy," "I have voted already. I went in with Mr. Mills."

"Voted already," said his father, laughing. "Well, you certainly have begun young."

Tommy said nothing to this, but he wondered why his father laughed.

THE RIDE HOME.

When Mr. Grant and Tommy started home, and the grays were jogging along easily over the leaf-strewn road, his father turned to Tommy and said: "So you cast your first ballot to-day, did you?"

"No, sir," answered Tommy. "I only voted, but I don't understand it at all, and I wish you would tell me about it."

Mr. Grant thought a moment and then said: "Well, Tommy, I think it would be a good idea. You are getting old enough to learn something about such matters. Suppose we wait until this evening, and after supper we will talk it over. Dora and Sam may be interested in what I have to say."

Tommy was willing to wait until evening for the promised talk, but he thought he might venture a few questions then.

"What did they have the big tin box for, father?" he asked.

"That is called a ballot box," replied Mr. Grant. "Each man is permitted to prepare a ballot, which represents his choice of men to fill the public offices that are vacant. Did you see Mr. Mills' ballot?"

"Was it that long piece of paper?" asked Tommy.

"Yes," said his father, "and on it were printed the names of the different men who are to be voted for. These men are called candidates. Mr. Mills went into the booth and made a cross opposite the names of those candidates for whom he wished to vote."

"What do they do with the ballot box?" asked Tommy.

"After everybody has voted," said Mr. Grant, "the box is opened and the ballots are all counted as marked. The man who has the most crosses opposite his name as shown by the ballots is elected, and will hold office until the next election."

"Which man was elected to-day?" asked Tommy, who was beginning to understand it.

"They can't tell yet," said Mr. Grant. "The ballots will not be counted until the polls are closed, and that will not be done before six o'clock."

"What are the polls, father?"

"The places where the people vote are called polls. Our voting place is only one of a great many scattered all over the county. People are voting at all of these places to-day. After the polls are closed this evening the ballot boxes at all these voting places will be opened, and the ballots counted. The election officers of each voting place will then make up a written statement of the number of votes each candidate has received in that voting precinct."

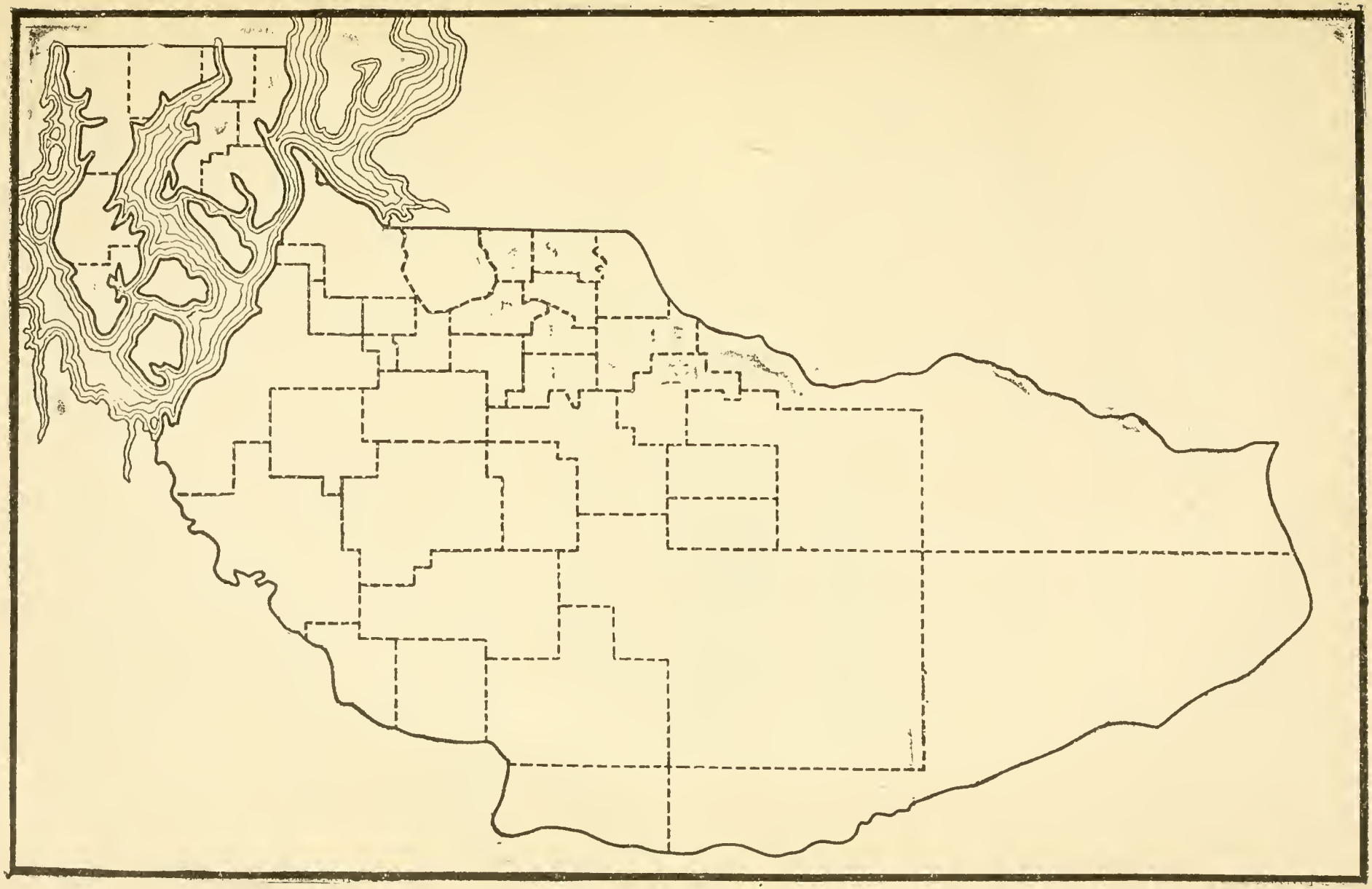
"What is a precinct?" asked Tommy.

"A precinct is a certain part of the county in which a voting place is located. The county is divided into precincts, so that each man can have an opportunity to cast his ballot without going too far. After the votes are counted, the reports from the precincts, called returns, are sent to certain county officers at the county seat. These officers add up all of the votes that each candidate has received in all of the precincts in the county. In this way they are able to find out which candidate has received the largest number of votes. But I must not go into the matter too far if we are to have our talk this evening."

A pheasant flew up just ahead of the horses, and with a loud, whirring sound disappeared in a thicket by the roadside. This diverted Tommy's attention from ballots and ballot boxes, and started an interesting discussion as to the difference between pheasants and grouse. Before they had finished the subject it was time for Tommy to climb down and open the gate at the foot of the lane that led to the Grant farm-house.

SUMMARY

The Grant family. The farm house. Tommy's trip to town. Ballots and their use. Election returns. Precinct. Candidates.



PRECINCT MAP

father's side, hugging his knees, after the fashion of a small boy, and waiting very patiently for his father to begin the promised talk.

"Did you know," began Mr. Grant, addressing them all, "that Tommy voted to-day? At least he said he did."

Sam laughed scornfully, and Mrs. Grant looked hard at the small boy, whose face grew very red. Tommy, a little indignant at Sam's sneer, told his mother of his experience.

"Of course," he concluded, "I know better now, for father explained it all to me as we rode home, and he said he would tell us more about it to-night."

"I have thought, my dear," said Mr. Grant, turning to his wife, "that it would be a good idea to spend some of our long winter evenings in talking about our government and the part Sam and Tommy will have to take some day as citizens.

A QUESTION RAISED.

"Have girls nothing to do with the government, father?" asked Dora, who had been interested in Tommy's story.

"Of course not," said Sam. "Women can't vote."

"You are mistaken there, my son," said Mr. Grant, "and I think I should have included Dora with you boys. In Washington, and, indeed, in most of the other states, women are allowed to vote on all questions affecting the public schools, and that is a most important part of our government. In several states they are allowed to vote upon all questions, and even to hold office, just as men do.

"Each state has the power to say who shall vote in that state. Many people in this state believe that woman should have the same right that men have to vote on all questions. So the matters we are to discuss will be of interest to Dora, for by

the time she is grown the law in this state may be changed, and women and men alike have the right to vote upon all questions relating to government.

WHAT IS GOVERNMENT?

"What is government, father?" asked Tommy.

"That is a very good question to begin with," said Mr. Grant, "and I will do my best to make it plain to you. If I were to try to give a short definition of government, I should say that it is the fixed rules under which people live together.

"This home, for example, represents a government — a family government. Here we are, five people living together. Two of us are adults and three are children. The fixed rules under which we live together make our family government. One of the rules of our family government, for instance, is that the two adult members of the family shall have the right to say what shall be done and what shall not be done.

"Another rule of our family government is that the adult members must provide food and clothing for the children, take care of their health and give them as good an education as they can afford. Still another rule is that the children must obey the laws of the home, laid down by the parents, and, as far as possible, help provide for the needs of the family.

"These rules are not written out, but they are just as much rules as if they were put in writing or printed in a book. These rules make our family government, because under these rules we live together as a family. So I say that government is the fixed rules under which people live together.

"There are other governments besides the family government. People of the same race, speaking the same language

and living in the same land, agree upon certain rules under which they will live together. This is called a civil government. Remember, it is not the country that makes the government, nor the people who live in the country, but the fixed rules under which the people of the country live together."

"Who makes the rules, father?" asked Dora.

ORIGIN OF GOVERNMENT.

"I may have difficulty in answering that question so you will understand clearly," answered Mr. Grant. "Sometimes the people of a country will overthrow all the rules under which they have been living, and make an entirely new set of rules; then they have a new government, and in that case they themselves make the rules under which they are to live together. This, however, is not often done. Generally, governments are old. The rules were made long ago. Little by little they have been changed. Some rules have been thrown aside, and others have been added. In the first place the rules were laid down by some king or conqueror. Other kings coming after have changed or added to them. Then the time came, perhaps, when the people did not like to have kings make rules for them, and insisted upon having some voice in making the rules under which they were to live together. After that the people themselves would change or add to the rules.

"Take our national government, for example. There was a time when there was no United States of America. The whole country was a wilderness, with no cities or towns, no railroads or wagon roads, no factories and no farms. There were no people here but Indians. Finally a good many people came from England and settled in this country. Being Englishmen, the King of England said that the rules under which the people

lived together in England must govern these people in America.

"For a long time the Americans consented to live under these rules, but finally they made up their minds that the English rules were not good for them. They declared that they intended to make for themselves a new set of rules under which they would live together. The King of England objected, and sent armies to America to force the Americans to live under the English rules. But the English armies were defeated, and before long the Americans were free to make rules for them selves.

"Since then the people of this country have in many cases changed and added to the set of rules they first adopted, so that some of the rules under which we live to-day are new, and some as old as our government. But, old or new, the rules in this country have all been made by the people of this country."

"But what is the use of rules anyway?" asked Sam. "Why can't everybody do just as they want to?"

REASON FOR GOVERNMENT.

"That is a fair question, my boy," replied Mr. Grant, "and I will try to answer you. If a man lived entirely alone, and had no dealings with anybody else, he would have the right, so far as other people were concerned, to do in all cases just as he chose. No other man would have any right to make a rule to govern him. But if a man wants to live with other men he must respect their rights; each man must be willing to give up his right to do entirely as he chooses, and be willing to do what they all think best.

"This means that each man must do certain things whether he wants to or not, and that there are other things which he must not do even if he wishes. This is the price he must pay for the privilege of living with other men.

"If every man knew what was right, and was willing always to do it, there would be no need of having rules for living together. But we know that many men are ignorant, and do not know what is best for themselves or the others with whom they live. Then there are some men who do not want to do right. Some men are willing to wrong others if they think it will be to their own advantage. If there were no rules to restrain such men they would be sure to wrong others who were not as strong as they are.

"So you see that if men are to live together, there must be some rules to protect those who are not strong enough to protect themselves, for the weakest have the same rights as the strongest."

"If each man lived alone, then," said Sam, "we would not need rules."

NECESSITY OF GOVERNMENT.

"No," said his father; "but can you think of such a thing? If each man lived entirely alone, he would soon be worse than a savage. No man could have anything which he did not make himself. He might live for a time in a poor sort of a way upon the animals he could kill or the vegetables or fruit he could find, but if he had only what he could make, there are very few animals he could kill, and very few fruits and vegetables he could find that would keep through the winter months.

"No; if each man should live alone, his condition would soon become lower than we can imagine. It is absolutely necessary that he live with other men. He is so created, and if he did not, he would soon cease to exist.

"So you see the reason for these rules which we call government. There must always be government where people live

together. Sometimes it is not as good as it should be, and the people themselves suffer on that account.

"To have a good government we must have good people—people who want the right thing done, and who do not want to see any man, however weak he may be, wronged by another who happens to be stronger. When we have good people who make the rules, everybody will be happy and prosperous, for they will be protected in all their rights.

"When you are a little older it will be your duty to help make the rules under which the people of this country and this state are to live together. You should do what you can to become fully informed, that your part may be wisely and honestly done.

"But we have had enough for to-night, for I see that Tommy is nodding, and even Dora is having hard work to fight off the sand-man. To-morrow night we will talk about something that will not be so hard for you to understand. It was best to tell you first why there needs to be some government, before I begin to tell you about our own government."

SUMMARY.

What is government? Family government. Civil government. Origin of government. Change of government. Reason for government. Necessity for government.

CHAPTER III.

Wednesday Evening's Talk.

The next evening the family gathered as usual about the open fire. The children had been really interested in the conversation of the evening before, and wondered if their father had forgotten his promise to resume the subject.

Mr. Grant was discussing with his wife the matter of buying a separator for the dairy, and Tommy, growing restless, rolled his small rubber ball toward Jim, the big, black cat, who sat so still and stiff, close in the chimney corner.

Jim pretended to mistake the ball for a mouse, and with one quick stroke of his paw knocked it into the fire. With a cry of dismay, Tommy jumped from his chair, seized the poker and recovered his ball, but the hot coals had melted the rubber, and the gas with which it was filled gradually escaped, leaving in Tommy's hand a flabby rubber sack that looked little enough like a ball.

Tommy's face grew very grave, and his lips trembled for a moment, but Mr. Grant quickly drew him between his knees, and comforted him with the promise of a new ball—not a soft rubber ball such as small boys play with, but a hard base-ball, such as large boys use.

"For," said Mr. Grant, "you are getting to be quite a large boy, since you take an interest in government, and are getting ready to do your part as a good citizen."

"Father," said Sam, who seemed to think the reference to the last evening's talk had opened the subject," is a school a government?"

SCHOOL GOVERNMENT.

"Well, Sam," said Mr. Grant, "what do you think about it?"

"You said last night," said Sam, "that government was the fixed rules under which people live together. We have rules at school which the children have to obey, but we don't exactly live together."

"Yes," said Mr. Grant, "you live together for a number of hours each day, and the rules under which you meet and study for a part of the day make the government of your school. The school government really stands next to the family government. The various families that live in the school district make a school family, and the rules which they recognize make the school government of the district."

"What is a school district?" asked Tommy.

THE DISTRICT.

"I will try to explain it," said Mr. Grant. "Our nation is called the United States of America. It includes all the territory from the Atlantic Ocean on the east to the Pacific Ocean on the west, and from the Dominion of Canada on the north to the Republic of Mexico on the south.

"It is a very large country, and it would be very difficult to govern it as a whole, so the people of the whole country have agreed that it shall be divided into a number of parts called states. The State of Washington, in which we live, is one of these parts.

"It is also agreed by the people of all the states that the people of each state shall manage their own local affairs and make their own laws. One of the things that the people of the State of Washington can manage to suit themselves is the public schools.

"The people of the State of Washington have agreed that the state shall be divided into thirty-six parts, called counties, and that people in each county shall say how many schools they will have and where they shall be located.

"The people of each county divide their county into parts which they call school districts. The people who live in a school district provide for and regulate the schools in that district.

"A school district, of course, must have certain fixed boundaries. Our district extends from the road that runs by Mr. Jackson's place to the river on the south, and from the Swift prairie road on the east to Willow Creek on the west. All the country between these boundaries is included in our school district. The people who live in this district manage their own schools.

SCHOOL MANAGEMENT.

"They say when and where the school houses are to be built. They engage the teachers and say how many months of school there shall be each year."

"But, father," said Sam, "don't the school directors do that?"

"Yes," replied Mr. Grant, "the people of the school district meet every year, and elect directors who shall do these things for them. The directors provide the school houses and select the teacher. The school when opened is in charge of this

teacher. So you see the people of the school district really control their own school.

"When the teacher makes a rule for the school it is really the people of the school district who do it. All the people of the school district cannot teach the school at the same time, so they agree that one person shall do it for them. The teacher should be respected and obeyed by the pupils, because he is really trying to do them good, and also because he stands for and in the place of all the people in the district. You have known scholars who were disobedient and impudent, have you not?"

"Yes, indeed," answered Dora, "Steve Smith is just as impudent as can be, and he was punished to-day for making faces at the teacher."

"In many cases," continued Mr. Grant, "disobedience is the result of thoughtlessness, but impudence is never excusable. Suppose there should be a meeting of all the people of this school district, including Stephen Smith's father and mother. Do you think he would make faces at the whole company? Yet when he insults the teacher he is insulting the whole company, for the teacher, when he is in the school room, stands for them all.

"I suppose that Stephen considers it smart to be impudent, and very likely some of the other pupils encourage him by laughing at his insolence. They would not be so likely to laugh if they remembered that back of the teacher stand their own parents.

"Yes, Sam," he continued, "the school is a government. The state laws relating to public schools, the action of the people in choosing directors, the action of the directors in providing

a school building and selecting a teacher, and the rules laid down by the teacher for the regulation of the school, all combine to make the school government of this district. Taken all together, they are the fixed rules under which the people of this district provide school privileges for their children."

"Where do they get the money to build the school house and pay the teacher?" asked Dora.

THE MONEY.

"The people of the whole state tax themselves for the purpose of raising money to maintain their public schools," answered her father. "As to the manner of raising and distributing this money I shall have something to say later on.

"Each school district receives a certain amount every year from the state fund. There is also a county school fund, which is distributed among the districts.

"If the people of the district desire a longer term of school than the money apportioned to their district will pay for they can vote a special tax upon their property. This tax will fall only upon the property of those persons who live in the school district. When the people of the district pay their taxes for keeping up the state and county governments they will also pay this special tax. Each person who owns property will pay his share. The more property he owns the more his share of the special tax will be.

"There are different ways of getting money for the building of the school house. In some cases the people of the district give what they can, such as land for the site, lumber or other materials, or money with which these things can be bought. Those who cannot give either material or cash give their work, and in the end the school house is built, and no debt remains

upon the district. The house may be small, perhaps, and not very fine looking, but it is all paid for, and the people of the district feel better than they would with a finer school house and a debt to be paid at some future time.

"But there is another way to build a school house, and one which is too often followed. The people agree that they need a school house, and decide to build it. They wish a better one than they can build and pay for. Perhaps they think it will be easier to pay for it at some future time. Hence they borrow the money necessary to pay for the labor and materials that are required. But when the school house is built it is not theirs, because it is not paid for. They can use it, but they must pay for the use of it just as if they had rented a building."

"Whom will they have to pay for the use of it?" asked Sam.

"When they borrow the money the directors must sign a paper, which is called a bond. In this bond they promise to pay the money back to the person from whom they borrow it, and they also agree to pay him a certain amount each year for the use of the money."

"If they use the money they borrow to build the school house, do they not pay this extra money every year for the use of the house?"

"Some school districts have paid so much for the use of borrowed money that before they were out of debt they had paid more than double the amount they had borrowed."

"I do not think that plan pays," said Tommy.

"Neither do I," said Mr. Grant, and I never will vote in favor of bonding our school district. As I have said, the school directors are chosen by the people of the district at the annual

school election. It is their duty to manage the business of the district for the people. To do this they hold meetings of the Board of Directors, and when they cannot all agree as to what should be done, they vote upon the question, and the majority of the Board decides the matter.

SCHOOL ELECTION.

"At the annual school election the people of the district choose a man to act as clerk of the School Board. It is the clerk's duty to keep the minutes of the Board meetings, so that there will be a record of everything the Board does. The clerk keeps all accounts for the Board, and generally purchases such supplies as the school requires. In many other respects the clerk acts for the Board, but he has no power to do anything unless it is approved and authorized by the Board.

"A little further on in our talk I will probably have something more to say about schools. While the district manages its own school the people of the county and of the state, through officers elected for that purpose, exercise a measure of supervision over the public schools."

"Do they vote at the school elections as they did in town yesterday?" asked Tommy.

"Very much in the same way, Tommy, and I am pleased to see that you have not lost sight of our starting point. It is a good place from which to start, and you should never lose sight of it if you want to be a good citizen and do your part toward making our government a good government.

"I may want a good school in this district; I may want the business of the school district managed well and economically; I may believe that the district should keep out of debt; but if I don't vote on election day, I have not done my duty as a citizen, or as a father who has children to educate.

"A school election is very much like other elections. There is a notice of the time and place of the election either published in a newspaper or posted in three public places in the district. The notice states what offices are to be filled and what other questions concerning the school are to be submitted to the people for decision. When the time comes judges and clerks are chosen to conduct the election. It is their duty to see that no one votes who is not entitled to vote, and after the election is over to count the ballots and certify to the results."

"Can everybody vote at a school election?" asked Dora. "You know you said that women could."

"Yes," said her father, "women can vote at school elections, but otherwise no one can vote who would not be entitled to vote at a general election.

"A person to be entitled to vote must be a citizen and twenty-one years of age; he must have resided a year in the state, six months in the county and thirty days in the voting precinct.

"I think you now understand something of our school district, and this will be a good place for me to stop to-night.

SUMMARY.

A school government. School district. School directors. The teacher and the source of his authority. The money required to sustain the school. Special school tax. Two ways of building the school house. School bonds. School district elections. School district officers.

CHAPTER IV.

Thursday Evening's Talk.

Next evening when Mr. and Mrs. Grant came into the sitting room after caring for the milk, they found one-half of the room fenced off with cotton string. Within the enclosure sat Tommy at the center table, on which stood a large baking powder can with a long hole punched in the lid. Dora was in the act of handing a ballot to Tommy, which he gravely received and slipped into the ballot box, at the same time calling out, "Dora Grant, No. 9, voted."

The little folks did not see their parents at the door, and Dora, having left the enclosure, immediately returned with another ballot, which Tommy received and placed in the ballot box.

"How is the election going, Tommy?" asked Mr. Grant, as he came into the room.

Tommy grinned broadly, and Dora blushed, but neither said anything.

"What kind of an election is this?" asked their father, pushing his chair up to the fire.

"It is a school election," answered Dora, "and we are voting for a school director; and, oh, dear! I am afraid we can't elect one, for there is nobody but me to vote, and I have voted as many times for mamma as I have for you, so neither has the most votes."

Tommy at once called her attention to the fact that he was the officer of the election, and that no one knew who was elected until he had counted the ballots after the election was over. He then declared the polls closed, and at once opened the ballot box. The ballots were emptied out and counted, and the result was, as Dora had said, five for papa and five for mamma.

"What will you do in that case?" asked Mr. Grant.

"I don't know," said Dora. "I suppose we will have to go without a director."

"That would never do," said Mr. Grant. "What do you think about it, Tommy?"

Tommy didn't know, but he answered the question shrewdly by asking another.

"What do grown folks do at a real election?"

"When two candidates receive the same number of votes they cast lots to see which of the two shall be elected.

"How do they do it?" asked Dora.

"I will show you," answered her father.

Then taking one of the ballots marked "papa" and one marked "mamma" he handed them to Tommy, and told him to place them in the ballot box. The box being well shaken, Dora drew out one of the slips of paper, and they all crowded around to see it. As she unfolded it and glanced at the writing she gave a little cry and said, "Oh, goody! it's mamma; though I should have been just as glad if it had been papa." So Mrs. Grant was duly declared elected by Master Tommy, the election officer, and with much laughter they all gathered about the fire for their evening talk.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

"This matter is getting rather serious for me," began Mr. Grant. "I have been thinking all day what I should say about the government of the county. You remember I told you that the State of Washington is divided into thirty-six parts, called counties. This is done for the convenience of the people in transacting their public business. The counties are divided into school districts for the purpose of providing as many schools as the people need, and giving the people of each district a chance to manage their own school.

"But the people of a county have a great deal of public business to transact besides that which relates to the public schools. For the transaction of this public business and for the protection of the property and the personal rights of the people of the county, the county is provided with a government. That is, the laws of the state lay down certain rules regulating the public affairs of the people who live in the county. These fixed rules taken together make the government of the county.

"I am not able to give you all these rules, and you would not understand them all if I did. But there are certain officials elected by the people of the county whose duty it is to carry out the rules which the laws of the state lay down. If I tell you about these public officers and explain to you the duties of each, you will get some idea of the county government as a whole.

"I think it would be a good idea if I should make a little diagram of the officers that represent the county government, that we may keep it before us as we talk. If Tommy will let us use the little blackboard he got last Christmas, it will be very convenient for our diagram."

COUNTY

GOVERNMENT

THE NEW YORK
PUBLIC LIBRARY,

ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.

Tommy brought out the blackboard, and Mr. Grant, taking the chalk, wrote in bold letters something like this.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

Business Department	Commissioners Assessor Auditor Treasurer Surveyor
Court Department	Superior Judge Clerk Prosecuting Attorney Sheriff Coroner Justices of the Peace Constables
School Department	Superintendent of Schools

"All these officers are elected by the people of the county, and each officer has certain duties to perform. These duties are defined by the laws of the state. Every man likes to manage his own business, and, understanding it better than any other person, he can do it better than another could do it. So the county government is provided by the laws of the state that the people of the county may manage their own public business.

"The people of the county have business interests just as an individual has. There are different kinds of county business that require attention, and a separate officer is elected to attend to each kind.

"You see by our diagram the three general divisions of the county government: (1) That which relates to the general business affairs of the county; (2) that which relates to the courts,

and (3) that which relates to the schools. We will take these up in order.

COUNTY BUSINESS.

"I have explained to you how no government would be needed if every man lived entirely alone and had absolutely nothing to do with any other man. But as soon as men begin to live together or near each other, and wish to meet each other and buy from and sell to each other, it becomes necessary for them to do some things in common.

"They need roads, and bridges across the streams, and schools, and protection against evilly disposed persons who might injure or rob them. None of these things can be had unless they act together.

"When a number of men form a company and invest their money in the construction of a large saw mill, they can't all manage the business, so they select from their number a few whom they call directors. To the directors they give full power to act for them in managing the business of the company.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

"So the people of the county select a few men to have charge of their common business. That is what they do when they elect three men to act as County Commissioners. They are to the people of the county very much what the Board of Directors are to the people who organize the saw-mill company. They are the general managers of a large part of the county business.

"The Board of County Commissioners has charge of the roads and bridges of the county. This is a most important matter, for the prosperity of a county very largely depends upon the number and condition of its roads.

"The Commissioners determine when a new road shall be built, when an old road shall be extended or repaired, and when and where bridges shall be constructed.

"They have the care of the very poor people of the county, who, on account of age, infirmity or misfortune, are unable to provide for their own support.

"It is the duty of the Board of County Commissioners to erect and keep in repair such buildings as the business of the county may require, such as the court house and county jail.

"The court house generally contains a large room in which the sessions of the Superior Court are held, and office room for all the county officers. It would be better, I believe, to call it the county house, for that is what it really is. It is the place where the county's business is transacted.

"The court house is always built at the county seat. The people of the county choose some city or town within the county at which the county business must be transacted and all the county offices located. The county seat, as it is called, is generally the largest town in the county, but not always so. Sometimes the people will select one of the smaller towns because it is more centrally situated, and more convenient for a majority of the people of the county. Besides the duties I have already mentioned, the Board of County Commissioners are required to pay all bills against the county."

"They must be very rich men," observed Dora.

"They do not have to pay them with their own money," replied Mr. Grant. "They merely approve them and direct the County Treasurer, who collects and keeps the county moneys, to pay them. Every year they make an estimate of the amount required to run the county government for the

next year. Then they find out how much property there is in the county and what it is worth. They then make what is called a tax levy—that is, they say that to raise the amount of money necessary to run the county government for the next year each dollar's worth of property in the county must pay so much tax. To illustrate: If all the property in the county is worth ten million dollars and the expense of the county government for the year is fifty thousand dollars, each dollar's worth of property will have to pay five mills."

"How much is five mills?" asked Tommy.

"I know," said Dora. "A mill is a tenth of one cent, and five mills will be a half of a cent."

"That is right," said Mr. Grant. "Each dollar's worth of property in the case I have cited will have to pay one half of a cent if the required amount is raised."

"How can the property pay the tax?" asked Dora.

"All the property is owned by some one," said Mr. Grant, "and the person who owns the property must pay the tax. For example, suppose Mr. A owns ten thousand dollars' worth of property; in the case I have cited he will have to pay toward the expense of keeping up the state and county government one-half of one cent for each one dollar of the value of his property."

"That would be fifty dollars," said Sam, who had been closely following the discussion.

"You are right, Sam," said Mr. Grant. "If Mr. B owns only one thousand dollars' worth of property he will have to pay only five dollars. You see, Mr. A has ten times as much property as Mr. B, and therefore he will pay ten times as much tax."

"How do they find out how much property people have?" asked Sam.

"That is the county assessor's work, and we will reach that a little later on," replied his father.

"Suppose some people refuse to pay their tax," said Sam, "how would they get the amount of money they needed?"

"In that case," said Mr. Grant, "after waiting a reasonable length of time, the county would sell enough of the man's property to pay the tax.

"The Board of County Commissioners also acts as a Board of Equalization. In this capacity they correct any mistakes the Assessor may have made in the valuation of the property in the county. But I will tell you more about that after we have considered the duties of the County Assessor.

"The County Commissioners sign all contracts on behalf of the county, and bring and defend all suits or actions in the courts to which the county is a party.

"Another power which is given them is the filling by appointment of any vacancy in a county office. That is, if a man who has been elected by the people to any county office dies or moves out of the county during his term of office, the Board of County Commissioners has the power to appoint some one to hold the office for the remainder of the term.

"Now, children, after learning the duties of the Board of County Commissioners, what kind of men do you think should be chosen for members of the Board?"

"They ought to be farmers," said Tommy, "then they would be sure to make the roads better."

"They ought to be smart men," said Sam, "if they have to figure out everything about those taxes."

"I think they ought to be good, kind men," said Dora, "if they are the ones to look after the people who are poor and old and sick, and who have no friends to take care of them."

"Yes," said Mr. Grant, "you are about right. They should be broad-minded, kind-hearted men, of more than ordinary business ability and experience. It is not necessary that they should be farmers, although many of the best commissioners do come from country districts. There is a reason for this. A good county commissioner should be familiar with the whole county and the needs of each locality. As a general thing, farmers understand better than any other class of men the need of good roads and bridges. A county commissioner should be honest and fair, and public-spirited enough to be willing to sacrifice his own interests for the good of the people of the county, for he is paid very little for his services when we consider the grade of business ability which the office demands.

"What is the next officer in the business department of the county government according to our diagram?"

"The County Assessor comes next," said Dora.

"That is right. Suppose we begin with the County Assessor to-morrow night."

A row of apples were slowly sputtering before the fire. They had been carefully turned from time to time by Tommy, and were now nicely roasted. These with some generous slices of thick ginger bread made a lunch which the children thoroughly enjoyed. Then came bed time and "good night."

SUMMARY.

Reason for county government. Source of the rules. The officers in the business department. In the court department. In the school department. Some elements of county business. County Commissioners and their duties. The county seat. The court house. The method of raising money for county expenses.

CHAPTER V.

Friday Evening's Talk.

The subject of civil government had taken possession of the Grant family. The children discussed it on the way to and from school; Dora and Tommy held all kinds of play elections, and Mrs Grant declared that she did nothing but answer questions. She admitted to her husband privately that she was learning a great deal about the subject that she had never known before.

Mr. Grant was kept busy during his spare minutes arranging in his mind what he was to say in the evening, and occasionally Mrs. Grant observed him looking through a big book, called the Code, in which the laws of the state are printed. Each night the children were more eager for the talk to begin, and more attentive and interested as it progressed.

THE COUNTY ASSESSOR.

"We were to begin this evening with the county Assessor," said Mr. Grant, when the family were all ready. "To what department of the county government does his office belong?"

"The business department," answered Dora.

"To meet all the expenses of the county government a great deal of money is needed. The county is also required by law to pay its share of the expense of keeping up the state government. To provide money for these things is the first duty of the business department of the county government. The first step is the assessment of all the property in the county. This is the work of the County Assessor."

"What does assessment mean, father?" asked Tommy.

"To assess property is to value it—to say what it is worth in money. The Assessor prepares a list of all the people in the county. Then he, or one of his deputies, calls upon each person and gets from him a list of all the property he owns. Each person who owns property of any kind is required to fill up a blank which the Assessor furnishes. In filling up this blank he itemizes the property which he owns and puts down opposite each item the amount of its value in money. The person filling the blank then signs the statement and makes oath before the Assessor that the list contains everything that he owns, and that the amounts he has put down represent a fair valuation of the property.

"If the Assessor is not satisfied that the person making the statement has valued the property he has listed as high as it should be valued it is his duty to raise the amount. In this way the Assessor gets a full list of all the property in the county. These printed statements are called detail lists. These detail lists are copied into books called tax rolls. Here the work of the Assessor ends. But if he does his work well he has not much time for anything else.

"All property for the purpose of taxation is divided into two classes, real estate and personal property. Real estate consists of land and everything that is fixed on the land. Lumber, doors and windows are personal property, but as soon as they are built into a house they become, with the land, real estate. Every other kind of property is personal property.

"Now our farm with the buildings and fences and the fruit trees growing in the orchard, together with the uncut timber on the northeast forty is real estate. What do I own that the Assessor would class as personal property?"

"Horses and cows," said Tommy.

"Wagons and harnesses and the farm machinery," said Sam.

"The furniture and the clock and the sewing machine," said Dora.

"Yes," continued their father, "and any money I may have and any accounts that are due me. All these things are personal property.

"Now if the Assessor does his duty well it will be necessary for him to travel about a good deal. There is considerable difference in the value of farms, and he should be able to judge what valuation to put upon the better class of land, and what upon the poorer. A farm that is close to town is more valuable than one further out in the country. Inasmuch as houses, barns, fences and clearings are a part of the real estate the Assessor must be a good judge of the cost and value of these things. To assess properly all these different kinds of property he should actually see most of it, and this takes a great deal of his time. A good Assessor should be a very fair man, and do his best to be just to the individual tax-payer and the county alike. You can see from what was said last night about the way the tax levy is made that the lower the assessed valuation of a man's property, the less tax he will have to pay.

"Now, if the Assessor should make one man's assessment lower than it should be he would be wronging all the other tax-payers in the county. For if one man pays less than his fair share of the taxes the others must pay more than their fair share. The Assessor's duty is not as pleasant as it might be, especially when he finds that a man is trying to avoid taxation either by failing to list all his property, or by under-valuing

that which he does list. Naturally, if the Assessor does his duty in a case like that, the tax-dodger is angry, but all good citizens will think more of him for doing faithfully what is an unpleasant duty

COUNTY AUDITOR.

"I think we have time to-night to take up one more officer. Which is the next on our diagram?"

"The County Auditor," said Sam.

"He also belongs to the group we call the business department of the county government. He has a number of things to do. In the first place he acts as Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners. He must keep a written record of the proceedings of the various meetings of the Board. In that capacity he receives the tax rolls from the County Assessor when they have been completed. The Board of County Commissioners then sit as a Board of Equalization, that is, they look over the tax rolls for the purpose of correcting any mistakes in valuation which the Assessor has made.

"The Assessor can not personally see all the property in the county, and much of that work is done by his deputies. So it is only natural that some mistakes should creep into the tax rolls; and, again, the work of assessment, that is, the valuation of property, is largely a matter of judgment, and in all disputed cases it is thought that the judgment of the three County Commissioners will be safer than the judgment of the one Assessor So the law provides that the County Commissioners may raise such assessments as they judge to be too low, and lower those they think too high.

"The property holder who is dissatisfied with his assessment may appear before the Board when they sit as a Board of Equalization, and present his claim for a reduction of assess

ment. In that case the Board looks into the matter, and if they think the assessment just they deny the application, but if the assessment appears to them to be too high they reduce it. It is the duty of the Auditor to make any changes in the tax rolls as he receives them from the Assessor which the action of the Board of Equalization requires. He then certifies the result to the State Auditor, giving the total assessed valuation of each class of property in the county. Before very long the State Auditor notifies him how much the county will have to pay the state as its share of the expense of keeping up the state government. The Board of County Commissioners then makes the calculation which I spoke of last night, and fixes the tax levy. That is, they say how many mills each dollar's worth of property in the county must pay that year toward maintaining the state and county government

'It is then the duty of the County Auditor to calculate how much money that would amount to for each person on the tax rolls and to set the amount opposite his name. This is called extending the tax rolls.

"After this has been done the tax rolls are complete. They contain, first, the name of the property holder; second, the description of his real estate with its assessed valuation; third, a list of all his personal property with its assessed valuation; fourth, the total assessed valuation of all his property; fifth, the tax levied by the County Commissioners expressed in mills; and sixth, the amount in dollars and cents which the person will have to pay for that year. The tax rolls are then ready to be turned over to the County Treasurer.

"It is the duty of the County Auditor to keep all the accounts of the county. The County Treasurer is required to

make a report to the Auditor of all moneys which he receives. When the Board of County Commissioners approve a bill against the county they order the Auditor to draw a warrant on the Treasurer for the amount. A warrant is an order to pay money. No money is paid out by the Treasurer except upon a warrant drawn by the Auditor. So you see the Auditor can easily keep account of all the moneys received and paid out by the county.

"The Auditor is required each year to make out from his books a full statement of all moneys received and paid out by the county for the preceding twelve months. He is required to publish this statement in some newspaper that every tax-payer can see how the business of the county is being managed.

"In addition to this annual statement the Auditor publishes in some newspaper the substance of the proceedings of each meeting of the Board of County Commissioners- It is his duty every three months to count the money in the county treasury. After counting the money the Auditor must report to the County Commissioners, first, the amount, according to his books, which should be in the county treasury; second, the amount and kind of money he finds there. This is a protection to the tax payers, for in the event a Treasurer was dishonest, under this system it would be discovered in a very short time.

"The Auditor has another very important duty. It is the keeping of a record that shows who owns each piece of land in the county. Some states have a separate officer to attend to this matter.

"Any instrument in writing which affects the title to real estate should be filed with the Auditor. When it is filed he records it in a book which he keeps for that purpose. The per-

son who files the paper can have it returned to him after it has been recorded. There are two reasons for the recording of these instruments: first, it enables everybody to know who is the owner of any particular piece of real estate; second, in the event that a deed or other instrument affecting the title of real estate should be lost or destroyed, the record in the Auditor's office would always show what it contained.

"You can easily see the importance of this record. If I want to buy a piece of land I can see by looking at the record if the man who offers it for sale really owns it. Suppose he does own it, but has borrowed money and given a mortgage on the land. The records in the Auditor's office will show that the mortgage has been given, and I will know that I must pay back the money borrowed if I buy the land, or the man who holds the mortgage could take the land away from me.

"These records are a great help to the County Assessor, for from them he gets the names of all persons owning real estate, together with the description of the land they own.

"The Auditor issues all marriage licenses. In this state people can not be married without first getting a license from the County Auditor. He cannot refuse them a license, if they are lawfully entitled to be married, but before the Auditor issues the license a sworn statement must be filed with him showing that the persons are entitled to be married under the laws of this state.

"The Auditor has many duties besides those I have named, but I have given you the principal things which he is required to do. He should thoroughly understand the keeping of accounts, besides being a good penman, and very quick in the use

of figures. He should be courteous and obliging, for a great many people have to do business with his office.

"Now, this will be enough for to-night, and I am much gratified with the attention you have given to what I have said."

SUMMARY.

Assessment of property. Detail lists. Tax rolls. Real estate. Personal property. Duties of Assessor. County Auditor and his duties. Board of Equalization. Extension of tax rolls. Published statement of county finances. Records to be kept by County Auditor. Reason for these records. Marriage licenses.

CHAPTER VI.

Saturday Evening's Talk.

The next day was Saturday and of course there was no school. In the afternoon Dora and Tommy went over to play with Julia and Joe Miller. The Millers were the Grants' nearest neighbors, and the families were great friends. On their way to and from school the Grant children had repeated for the benefit of their little friends a great deal of what they had learned from their father's interesting evening talks.

When Dora and Tommy were getting ready to go home, the Miller children urged their mother to let them go over to the Grant farm for the evening. Mrs. Miller did not seem inclined to consent, when her husband, who happened to be in the house at the moment, interposed and said:

"Oh, yes, mother, let them go, and we will go over ourselves after supper and bring them home. I have heard so much from the children about neighbor Grant's talks that I should like right well to hear one myself."

So it was arranged that the children should go, their parents following later for an evening's visit with their neighbors, and that is how it happened that the Millers dropped in just about the time the supper things were cleared away.

There was some general conversation among the elder people and much whispering and suppressed giggling among the children, until finally Mr. Miller said:

"I hope that our calling will not interfere with the regular evening's discussion of civil government. We have heard a good deal of your talks through the children and I can imagine about what has been said so far, so you can go ahead right where you left off. As I told Mrs. Miller, I shall be very much interested to see how you handle so dry a subject as to make it interesting for these little folks."

"If it was anybody else," said Mr. Grant, "I should postpone the matter until another evening, but you and Mrs. Miller are such intimate friends that I don't mind your hearing what I have to say."

After they had drawn their chairs into a half circle about the great blazing hearth and the blackboard with the diagram had been placed upon the mantle where everybody could see it easily, Mr. Grant began.

COUNTY TREASURER.

"The next officer, according to the diagram, in the group we call the business department of the county government, is the County Treasurer. We have seen how the tax rolls are prepared by the Assessor and then passed on to the Auditor and how they are corrected and extended by him. They are now passed on to the Treasurer, whose duty it is to collect the taxes levied from the property holders.

"The duties of the Treasurer may be divided into three general heads: The collection of taxes; the safe-keeping of all county moneys, and the paying of county warrants. From the tax rolls he is able to notify every property holder of the amount of his taxes for that year and of the time when they must be paid. He generally does this by sending a postal card through the mails to each person on the tax rolls.

"The Treasurer gives a receipt to each tax-payer for the amount paid and enters the amount in a book which he keeps for that purpose. At the same time that he makes out a receipt for the tax-payer he makes out a second one just like the first which he is required to give to the Auditor.

"The Treasurer keeps all the money he receives during the month from the payment of taxes in one fund. At the end of the month, however, he must separate the money received during the month into several general and special funds.

"When the State Auditor sends word to the County Auditor of the amount of money the state will expect from the county, as its share of the expenses of keeping up the state government, he does not ask for it in one lump sum. He says:

"'The State will expect from your county for the next year so much for general state tax, so much for state school tax, so much for military tax, and so much for state bond interest tax.'

"The County Commissioners, in estimating how much it will take to run the county government for the next year, say:

"'We will need so much for county indebtedness, so much for current expense, so much for roads and bridges, so much for schools,' etc.

"Then they figure out how many mills they must levy to raise each of these amounts. For illustration we will suppose the levy to be something like this:"

Here Mr. Grant turned Tommy's blackboard about, and wrote as follows:

For General State Expense	2 mills
For Military Expense	1 "
For State School Expense	3 "
For State Bond Interest	1 "
Total for State	7 mills
For County Indebtedness	3 mills
For Current Expense	4 "
For Roads and Bridges	2 "
For School Expense	2 "
For Soldiers' and Sailors' Relief	1 "
For Bond Sinking Fund	1 "
Total for County	13 mills
Total for State Purposes	7 mills
Total for County Purposes	13 "
Whole Levy	20 mills

"As I have explained before, a levy of twenty mills would mean that each dollar's worth of property in the county must pay for that year twenty mills, or two cents.

"Now, the Auditor, in extending the tax roll, pays no attention to the divisions of the levy. He simply takes the total number of mills levied for all purposes and finds out how much money each property owner will have to pay, and puts the amount opposite his name on the tax roll. The Treasurer collects the amount from the property holder, and, as I said, holds all the money he receives during the month in one fund. At the end of the month he adds up all that he has received, and then separates it, dividing it according to the levy among the several funds.

"Now," continued Mr. Grant, taking up the chalk again, "let us see how this case which I have supposed would work out. We will say that the amount received for one month is ten

thousand dollars. If the tax levy is twenty mills the money would be divided among the various funds like this:

General State Expense	2 mills	$1,000
Military Expense	1 "	500
State School Expense	3 "	1,500
State Bond Interest	1 "	500
Total for State		$3,500
County Indebtedness	3 mills	$1,500
Current Expense	4 "	2,000
Roads and Bridges	2 "	1,000
County Schools	2 "	1,000
Soldiers' and Sailors' Relief	1 "	500
Bond Sinking Fund	1 "	500
Total for County		$6,500
For State Funds		$3,500
For County Funds		6,500
Total, segregated		$10,000

"The way he gets at the amount to be placed in each of these funds is quite simple. The total amount of the levy which I have supposed is twenty mills. The amount to be divided among the funds is $10,000. If the levy for county current expense, for example, is four mills, the amount that fund should receive would be four-twentieths of $10,000, or $2,000. This division of the money received by the Treasurer among the several state and county funds is called segregation. The money in any of these funds cannot be used for any other purpose than that for which it was levied. The Treasurer is therefore required to keep these funds separate, and in paying out money for anything, to pay it out of the fund provided for that purpose.

"In paying out the county moneys, I have already explained

that the Treasurer always has a written order from the Auditor. These orders are called warrants, and the Auditor can issue them only when ordered to do so by the Board of County Commissioners. They are issued in payment of bills against the county, salaries of county officials, and old debts owed by the county. A warrant is always drawn against some particular county fund, so that the Treasurer will know out of which fund to pay it.

"Now, although the children have not asked any questions, I am sure they would like to know something more about these funds, and what bills can be paid out of each fund.

"Every month the County Treasurer must send to the State Treasurer the amounts he has collected during the previous month for the state funds. When we come to discuss the state government we will discover the meaning of these state funds.

"We will take up at present only the county funds I have spoken of. First, there is the county indebtedness fund. Many counties issue bonds to build court houses and jails, and in this way a debt is created. It is necessary each year to raise money to pay the interest on these bonds.

"Sometimes a county will issue a great many warrants when there is no money in the treasury to pay them. They are the county's promise to pay, however, and are generally considered good for the amount for which they are issued, just as a reliable man's note or written promise to pay money is considered good. Besides, they bear interest, and many people buy them as a safe investment. But if the people who buy them have to wait too long for them to be paid, especially if the county continues to issue warrants faster than it pays them, its warrants are not considered a good investment.

"If a man for a number of years, on account of misfortune or bad management, regularly spends more money than he earns, people will not want to give him credit, and his promise to pay money, even if it is in writing, will not be considered good.

"So if a county keeps getting more in debt, its warrants will go to a discount; that is, they will not bring dollar for dollar. If you have one for a hundred dollars, and wish to get money for it you can not find any one who will buy it for a hundred dollars, and if you must have the money you will have to take less than that amount.

"Now when a county gets very badly in debt, and has a great many warrants outstanding and unpaid, it sometimes borrows money on long time and at a lower rate of interest than the warrants bear, and pays off the old warrants. But to get this money they have to issue bonds, and every year pay a certain amount for the use of the money. It is out of the county indebtedness fund that all interest on county bonded indebtedness is paid.

"The county expense fund is provided to meet the general expenses of the county. The salaries of all county officers are paid out of this fund, also the cost of running the courts. All items of general expense for which there is no separate fund are paid out of this fund.

"The road and bridge fund is provided to meet the cost of building and repairing roads and bridges throughout the county.

"The school fund is provided to meet the expense of keeping up the schools of the county. I shall have more to say about this a little later on.

"The soldiers' and sailors' relief fund is provided to meet

the expense of properly caring for those who have served their country in the army or navy, and who, on account of age or infirmities are unable to make a living. It is a good sign when the people of the state pass a law creating a fund like this. It shows that civil governments need not be heartless or unfeeling. This fund should not be regarded as a charity fund, but rather as a recognition of the debt the people owe to those patriotic men who served their country in its time of need.

"The bond sinking fund is created for the purpose of providing the money for the payment of county bonds when they fall due. All counties do not have this fund. But I think it is a better plan to raise a little money each year toward paying county bonds when they fall due than to borrow more money and issue new bonds to pay the old ones. The latter method, which some counties follow, keeps the county in debt, and makes it necessary to pay interest for the use of the money each year.

"In creating a sinking fund to pay county bonds that fall due in twenty years it is necessary to raise and put aside each year something like one-twentieth of the amount borrowed. Then when the bonds fall due the money is all ready to pay them, and the county will thereafter save the annual interest charge.

"Then there are special funds, of which I have said nothing yet. You will remember that I told you of a special school tax which the school districts may levy. The levy of this tax affects only the property in the school district making it. The County Commissioners have nothing to do with it, but it is added to the general levy which they make, and for the property in that district is included in the total amount of taxes due, which the Auditor enters in extending the rolls.

"When the taxes are paid, and at the end of the month the Treasurer comes to segregate the amount received he must set apart the amount collected for this special school tax. If every school district makes a special levy when the taxes are paid and the money segregated, there will be as many special school funds as there are school districts. And here the Treasurer acts in another capacity. As soon as there is any money in a special school fund he becomes, so far as that fund is concerned, the Treasurer of that school district. In paying out this special fund the Auditor takes no part, for it is not a county fund. The officers of the district in this case draw the warrant on the Treasurer.

"There is another special tax called the special road tax. For the purpose of building and maintaining public roads the county is divided into road districts just as it is divided into school districts.

"The people of each road district elect a road supervisor who has general charge of road building and repairing in that district. If the people of the district want more roads than the County Commissioners will build and pay for out of the general road and bridge fund they can levy a special road tax for their district. The tax levied in this way will fall alone upon the property in that district — as in the case of special school taxes.

"The Auditor, in extending the tax roll will include the amount of the special road tax in the amount of tax due from each property holder in that district.

"The Treasurer, in segregating the money he receives, must keep the amounts received for special road taxes in different funds.

"Warrants drawn by the Auditor on the Treasurer are made payable to the person to whom they are issued. No one else can collect the money on them unless the name of that person is written upon the back of the warrant. This is called indorsing a warrant. After a warrant has been indorsed by the person to whom it is issued, anyone holding it can collect the money.

"If the county is out of debt, the Treasurer will pay county warrants when they are presented to him, provided there is money enough on hand in the fund upon which they are drawn. If there are any warrants outstanding, however, a newly-issued warrant cannot be paid until all outstanding warrants have been redeemed; that is, the Treasurer is required to pay warrants in the order in which they are issued by the Auditor. To enable him to do this, and as a matter of safety and convenience, all warrants are consecutively numbered.

"Nearly all county officers are required to give a bond for the faithful discharge of their duties. that is, they must get some responsible men to sign a paper by which they agree to forfeit a certain amount of money to the county or any one who is injured by the failure of the officer to do his duty. The County Treasurer is required to give a very large bond, because during his term of office he will be called upon to handle and keep very large amounts of county money.

"The County Treasurer should be a man of first-class business ability, and of perfect integrity. Indeed, if he is not known to be a thoroughly honest and trustworthy man, he will have difficulty in giving the large bond required of him.

"There is only one more officer in the group that we call the business department, but I think we will have time to-night to discuss his duties."

"Can't you wait, John," asked his wife, "until we have had some refreshments? I have made no preparations, but I am sure the children would like some apples and cider, and I have some cake in the pantry that I made to-day."

So a recess was taken, and a half hour followed full of laughter and general good cheer. Mr. Miller told Mr. Grant how much he had been pleased with the talk, admitting that he had never before thoroughly understood the division of county moneys into funds.

"I find," said Mr. Grant, "that I am learning something myself every day, for I am compelled to look up many questions in the Code, in order to explain them to the children, and I am sure that I get nearly as much good out of these talks as they do."

After the cake and apples had been washed down by some prime home-made cider, and Sam had piled an armful of wood upon the fire, the company again settled themselves to listen comfortably, and Mr. Grant resumed his talk.

COUNTY SURVEYOR.

"Dora, can you give me the name of the last officer in the list of those who constitute the business department of the county government?"

"The County Surveyor," answered Dora.

"The duties of the County Surveyor," said Mr. Grant, "consist of determining public boundaries and superintending public constructions. The law defines the boundaries of the county, and it becomes important to know just where the boundary lines run. The County Surveyor, from the printed description of the boundary lines, is able to locate them definitely.

"It is the County Surveyor who, acting under the instructions of the County Commissioners, locates the roads which are

to be built throughout the county. He prepares and keeps on file in his office maps showing the county boundaries and boundaries of each of the school and road districts into which the county is divided.

"It is also his duty to survey and plat any villages or towns that are organized. When the County Commissioners authorize the construction of a road or bridge, the County Surveyor superintends the work, seeing that it is done in accordance with the requirements of law and the instructions of the Board.

"When people disagree as to boundary lines separating their lands, they can have the County Surveyor locate the lines for them. All the work which the County Surveyor does in the matter of locating boundary lines of the county and school and road districts is taken to be correct until the contrary is proved.

"The County Surveyor has a good deal of work to do in his office in the preparation of plats and maps. These are very carefully prepared and bound in books for public reference. Anything which one desires to know concerning the geography of his county he can ascertain by examining the records in the County Surveyor's office.

"The records of his office, and also those of all other county officers, are always open to the public for inspection during business hours. County officers are the servants of the people and should always be willing to do everything in their power to assist people who are seeking information which can be obtained in their several departments.

"This concludes our discussion so far as it relates to the business department of the county government. To-morrow evening we will take up the next department, that of the courts."

With this, the evening's discussion came to an end, and after the children had gotten on their wraps, Mr. and Mrs. Miller said "good-night" and returned to their home.

SUMMARY.

County Treasurer and his duties. Form of tax levy. State funds County funds. Segregation. County warrants. Meaning of the several county funds. Special school district funds. Special road district funds. County Surveyor and his duties.

CHAPTER VII.

Monday Evening's Talk.

Monday evening found the Grant family about the fire as usual, with Tommy's blackboard in place upon the mantel. Mr. Grant called attention to the fact that they had finished the business department of the county government, and asked the children to name from memory the officers that constituted that group. They had no difficulty in doing so, and at their father's suggestion went on and gave briefly the duties and work of each officer in the group. After the rapid review was over, their father said:

"I am very much pleased to see how much you have remembered. It shows that you have been interested in what we have talked about, and that I was not wrong in thinking you old enough to learn something of these matters. You heard Mr. Miller say Saturday night that some of the things which he heard were new to him, and you will have the satisfaction of knowing as you go on that you are learning some things that many otherwise well-informed grown-up people do not know.

COURT DEPARTMENT.

"Tommy, can you tell me what our next general subject is as we have it upon the blackboard?"

"The court department," answered Tommy.

"That is right," said Mr. Grant. "The officers who make

up this group are the Superior Judge, the Clerk of the Superior Court, Prosecuting Attorney, and the Sheriff."

"But there are others on the blackboard," said Dora.

"That is true," said her father; "there are the Justices of the Peace, the Constables and the Coroner, but they are in a way subordinate court officers. Those I first named are the principal officers of the court department, and if I discuss their duties first you will better understand what I have to say about the subordinate court officers when I come to them.

"When people come to live together they do not always agree about things, and it becomes necessary to have some way of deciding questions about which they disagree. If there were no fixed rules for deciding these disputed questions, and the people should attempt to settle them by themselves, it would result in a great deal of trouble.

"All the people who live together in a community are interested in having these disputed matters settled in the right way, for no man knows how soon he may have a disagreement with some other man, and everybody wants to be treated with justice. So the people who live in this state have agreed upon certain fixed rules by which matters of dispute shall be settled. That is the reason why we have the court department of the county government.

SUPERIOR JUDGE.

"The first officer in the court department is called the Superior Judge. There are not as many Superior Judges in this state as there are counties. The reason is that some counties have so small a population that the court business would not occupy all of a Judge's time. For this reason two or more counties having a small population are joined in what is called a judicial district, and one man is elected as Superior Judge for them all.

"When one county has a sufficient amount of court business a Superior Judge is elected for that county alone. In the counties in which the cities of Seattle and Tacoma are situated the amount of court business is so large that each county is allowed three Superior Judges.

"The people of the county elect the Superior Judge except in the case where the judicial district includes more than one county, in which case the people of all the counties in the district elect the Judge.

"The office of the Superior Judge is a most important and responsible one and the people are very careful whom they choose for that position. In the discharge of his duties he has the decision of questions which involve not only the property rights but the liberty and even the lives of people. He should be a man of the highest standing as to character and knowledge of the law. Such a man will inspire confidence, and the people will submit their cases to him, feeling sure that he will do his best to decide between them with justice.

"The Superior Judge presides at the sessions of the Superior Court, which are held at regular intervals in the Court House at the county seat. He has general charge of all the business that comes before the Superior Court, and it is his duty to see that all the court proceedings are conducted according to the rules fixed by law.

"At every regular session of the Superior Court a certain number of men are summoned to act as jurymen. The judge who presides at the trial of the case does not decide the case. Twelve jurymen are called to hear the evidence and decide which one of the parties to the case is in the right. These twelve men, after they have been called to try a case, are called the jury.

They take an oath to try the case well and truly, and render a verdict according to the law and the evidence.

"The statements of the plaintiff in his complaint and of the defendant in his answer are not taken to be true. Each party to the suit must prove his statements by the testimony of witnesses. The witnesses, before testifying, must take an oath to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. After the witnesses for both plaintiff and defendant have testified as to the facts, and the attorneys for both parties have made their arguments, the judge charges the jury as to the law, that is, he tells them what the law is in a case where the facts are as the testimony shows them to be.

"The jury, after hearing the evidence, have the right to decide what the facts of the case are, whether as claimed by plaintiff, or as claimed by defendant. The judge, however, is the only one who has the right to say what the law is. So, after the jury have heard all the testimony as to the facts and the judge's charge or statement of what the law is, they retire to the jury room. It is then their duty to try to agree as to which of the parties is in the right.

"It is sometimes a hard matter for the jury to decide what the facts are, even after they have listened to all of the witnesses, for very often the evidence is conflicting, and in some cases the jury is unable to agree upon a verdict. If they do agree, they return to the court-room and announce their decision. This is called the verdict.

"The judge then renders judgment, that is, he makes an order that the party against whom the jury have returned the verdict shall do what the law requires. If the suit is brought to recover a certain amount of money which the plaintiff claims the defend-

ant owes him, and the jury have returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff, the judge orders the defendant to pay the amount to the plaintiff. If the defendant fails to obey the order, after a certain time the Sheriff may seize his property and sell enough of it to pay the plaintiff the amount of his judgment.

"The class of cases which we have been talking about, which relate to property or money, are called civil cases. There is another class of cases that are tried in the Superior Court called criminal cases. There are certain laws of the state called criminal laws. They define what in this state shall be called crimes, and fix the penalty that shall be inflicted upon any person found guilty of them.

"When a man is arrested for the commission of a crime he is tried in the Superior Court. The purpose of the trial is to determine whether he is guilty or not. A written statement accusing the defendant of a crime is filed with the Clerk of the Court by the Prosecuting Attorney. This statement is called either an indictment or an information. It contains a full statement of the crime committed, and charges the defendant with its commission. In all criminal cases the State of Washington is the plaintiff and the man accused is the defendant.

"The trial of a criminal case is very much like the trial of a civil case. A jury is called to decide the case. Witnesses for the state and for the defendant testify as to the facts. The judge tells the jury what the law is, and then the jury retire, and consider their verdict. If in favor of the defendant, their verdict will read, "not guilty;" if against the defendant, it will read, "guilty, as charged."

"The judge then passes judgment, that is, he makes an order that the defendant, having been found guilty of the crime

charged, shall pay so much money as a fine, or be imprisoned for a given period, as the case may be. This is called sentencing the prisoner. If the sentence is imprisonment, the sheriff takes the prisoner to jail; if it is a fine, the prisoner will be released upon the payment of the fine, otherwise, he will be kept in jail until he does pay it.

"In criminal cases each of the twelve jurymen must agree to the verdict, or the jury is said to have disagreed and the case must be tried again.

"Sometimes when a prisoner is brought into court he pleads guilty when the indictment is read to him; that is, he confesses that the facts stated are true, and that he is guilty of the crime charged. In such a case no jury is called, but the judge at once passes sentence in accordance with the law.

"Another duty of the Superior Judge is the management of probate business. This includes the settlement of the estates of deceased persons. When a man dies his property is disposed of in one of two ways. If he leaves a will, then it is distributed among the persons to whom he has left it; but if he did not make a will, then it is divided among his heirs in the manner directed by law. In either case the Superior Judge must see that the property is properly cared for until it can be finally disposed of, and that the persons receive it who are entitled to it.

"I have spoken of the Superior Judge as a county officer, and given him a place in the court department of the county government. This has been done for the reason that the work of the Superior Judge falls more naturally under the discussion of county government. As a matter of fact the Superior Judge is a state officer. The Superior Court is a state court and really constitutes a single court; the Superior Judge of any

county being the Judge of the Superior Court of the State of Washington in and for that county.

"There are eighteen Superior Judges in this state, but there is only one Superior Court. A Superior Judge, therefore, should be classified as an officer of the court department of the state government. His duties, however, so closely connect him with the officers of the county that I have dealt with him as a county officer.

"Tommy, can you tell me what comes next in the discussion of the court department of the county government?'

"The Clerk of the Court," answered Tommy.

COUNTY CLERK.

"You can easily understand," said Mr. Grant, "that it is very important that a careful record should be kept of all the proceedings of the Superior Court. The Clerk of the Superior Court is called the County Clerk, although that title is rather misleading. The County Auditor is really the County Clerk, inasmuch as it is his duty to keep the records that relate to the county business. The duties of the County Clerk, on the other hand, relate entirely to the keeping of a record of the various actions and orders of the Superior Court.

"He must file and carefully preserve all papers deposited in his office relating to the business of the court. All the papers filed in connection with any one case are kept together and called the files of the case.

"He is required by law to keep a book, which is called the Appearance Docket, in which the cases that are pending in the Superior Court are entered. In this book he makes a note of every paper that is filed in connection with the cases entered. He also keeps a Court Journal in which he records the daily

proceedings of the court and enters all verdicts, orders, judgments, and decisions. Besides these books, he is required to keep a number of other books of records, which I need not describe.

"The Clerk, of course, must be present while court is in session and make such minutes of its proceedings as will enable him to prepare all these records.

"In a book called the Minute Book he enters the names of all witnesses and jurymen who have been required to be present, together with the time of their attendance and the distance they have traveled. The purpose of this book is to enable the Clerk to make out a complete bill of costs in any particular case, and also to furnish the County Auditor with the information he requires in paying the witnesses and jurymen the fees they are entitled to receive.

"The Clerk has many other duties to perform, but I think I have given you the principal ones.

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY.

"From what was said about criminal cases tried before the Superior Court, you got some idea of the duties of the Prosecuting Attorney. This officer is the attorney for the county in all criminal actions. It is his duty to see that the criminal laws of the state are enforced. Therefore, whenever he has reason to believe that any of the criminal laws are being violated, he should bring the matter to the attention of the Superior Court. This is done in one of two ways, either by filing with the Clerk of the Court an information, or calling the matter to the attention of the Grand Jury.

"A Grand Jury consists of a number of men who have been summoned by the Superior Judge to inquire into all matters relating to the violation of the criminal laws. Upon their appear-

ance, the judge charges or instructs them as to their duty. After this they meet by themselves and hear testimony in relation to such cases as are called to their attention by the Prosecuting Attorney. They hear only the testimony of the witnesses which the Prosecuting Attorney calls.

"You can see that it is not at all like a trial, for the defendant is not present, nor are any witnesses heard in his behalf. The question to be determined is not as to whether or not he is guilty, but as to whether or not there is sufficient ground for accusing him of the commission of a crime and causing his arrest.

"If the Grand Jury considers the evidence submitted to them as sufficient they prepare a written accusation, formally charging the defendant with the commission of the crime. This is called an indictment. It is signed by the Foreman of the Grand Jury and by the Prosecuting Attorney, and afterwards filed with the Clerk of the Court.

"The Prosecuting Attorney should call the attention of the Grand Jury to all violations of the criminal law which may have come to his knowledge.

"It is the duty of the Prosecuting Attorney to do what he can to assist the Grand Jury in their investigation of all matters that come before them. He questions the witnesses and advises the jury as to whether the evidence submitted is sufficient to justify a conviction.

"In many counties of the state Grand Juries are seldom called on account of the expense involved, in which case the work the Grand Jury ordinarily does falls entirely upon the Prosecuting Attorney.

"Where no Grand Jury is called it is the duty of the Prosecuting Attorney to investigate this class of cases, and if, in his

opinion, a criminal law has been violated, he prepares a paper similar to an indictment accusing the person suspected with the commission of the crime. This paper is called an information, and is filed with the Clerk of the Court.

"When a person accused of a crime is placed upon trial in the Superior Court it is the duty of the Prosecuting Attorney to act as the attorney for the state. You will remember I told you that in all criminal actions the state is the plaintiff. The criminal laws are made for the protection of all the people, and when they are violated the whole people have an interest in the conviction and punishment of the person who is guilty of such violation.

"It is true that generally the violation of a criminal law injures one person more than the rest, but all the people desire the conviction and punishment of criminals to the end that criminal acts may be prevented. For this reason the people of the whole state become the plaintiff in a criminal action. The Prosecuting Attorney represents the people of the state in all cases of this character which occur in his county.

"In the trial of a criminal case in the Superior Court it is his duty to examine the witnesses for the state and to present such arguments as he may think proper to the jury in support of the information or indictment.

"It is also the duty of the Prosecuting Attorney to represent the state or his county in any civil action which may be brought in the Superior Court of his county, in which either the state or the county is a party. Actions of this kind are often brought by the state and county against persons who have signed the bonds of persons accused of crime.

"The Prosecuting Attorney must advise any county officer

who may be in doubt as to what the law is in respect to any matter of official business. He prepares written instruments of an official nature, such as contracts, etc. At least once a year he visits the office of the County Auditor and examines the official bonds of the county officers that are on file there, reporting to the Board of County Commissioners any defect he may discover in any public officer's bond. He must also examine the public records and books of the Auditor, Assessor, Superintendent of Schools, and Sheriff, and report to the Board of County Commissioners any failure of such officers to keep their books and records as required by law. Once a year he must make a report to the Governor of the State, setting forth the nature of the business which he has transacted during the year, and offering any suggestions which he may deem useful."

Here the evening's talk came to a close, though the children continued for some little time to ask questions about matters that were not quite clear to them. Finally Mrs. Grant insisted that it was long past bed-time, and the children reluctantly bade their parents "good-night."

SUMMARY.

Superior Judge. Judicial district. Jury. Trial civil cases. Trial criminal cases. Verdict. Judgment. Probate business. County Clerk and his duties. Prosecuting Attorney. Grand Jury. Indictment. Information.

CHAPTER VIII.

Tuesday Evening's Talk.

The day had been stormy and very cold and Dora and Tommy had been kept at home from school on that account. To these active little people a whole day of confinement in the house was very dull and distasteful. They had played at everything they could think of and were beginning to feel fretful and unhappy. Presently Dora began turning listlessly the leaves of a big book called The Code of Washington. Before long she gave a little cry and said:

"Oh, Tommy, here is a lot about the things father has been telling us of."

Sure enough she had hit upon the chapter relating to the rules of practice for the trial of criminal cases in the Superior Court. It seemed odd to see two such small heads bending over a big law book and note the real interest with which they followed the subject. There were a few big words they did not understand but they had no trouble in getting the general meaning.

That night when the evening's talk was about to begin they were able to contribute something toward the subject. Sam laughed and called Dora the "Judge," but Mr. Grant was really pleased. Continuing the discussion of the court department he said:

SHERIFF. "The next officer in the court department, according to our diagram, is the Sheriff. He is the executive officer of the Superior Court; that is, he carries into effect

the orders of the Superior Judge. There are a number of formal orders which are issued by the Superior Court, and I think I had better explain a few of them.

"A summons is a paper notifying a man that a suit has been brought against him and that he must answer the complaint filed by the plaintiff within a certain time. The Sheriff serves a summons by delivering a copy to the defendant or by leaving it at his residence.

"A subpœna is a written order of the court commanding a person to appear as a witness in a given case. It is served in the same manner as a summons.

"An execution is an order of the court requiring the Sheriff to levy upon enough property belonging to the defendant named to satisfy the judgment which has been rendered in the case. After the Sheriff has levied upon the property under the execution, notice is given of the time and place at which he will sell it. Having sold the property at public auction he turns over the money received to the Clerk of the Court. If the property brings more than enough to satisfy the judgment and costs the remainder will be paid back to the person whose property was sold.

"In the case of a sale of real estate under execution the Sheriff issues to the purchaser what is known as a Sheriff's Deed by which the title passes to the purchaser.

"A warrant is a written order for the arrest of a person for the violation of a criminal law. It is issued either by a Justice of the Peace or by the Clerk of the Superior Court upon the filing of a sworn statement accusing the defendant with the commission of a crime.

"It is the duty of the Sheriff, upon receiving a warrant, to

immediately arrest the person accused and keep him in custody until his release is ordered by the Court.

"A person who has been arrested under a warrant may be released, pending further action in his case, by giving a bond for his appearance at any time he may be required.

"The Sheriff is the principal peace officer of the county. It is his duty to see that the public peace is preserved, and he has the power to arrest, without a warrant, any person whom he may detect in the commission of a crime.

"When a man is convicted in the Superior Court of some offense which is not serious, he is either fined a certain amount of money, or sentenced to the county jail for a certain length of time.

"Offenses which may be punished by fine or imprisonment in the county jail are called misdemeanors. All other crimes, which are punishable by death or imprisonment in the state penitentiary, are called felonies. A man cannot be sentenced to the county jail for more than one year.

"The Sheriff has control of the county jail, and has charge of all persons confined under sentence and all who are awaiting trial. In the larger counties the control of the county jail and the care of persons confined there becomes a very important part of the Sheriff's duty. Often desperate and cunning criminals are to be found among those in the Sheriff's custody, and great care has to be exercised to prevent their escape. The Sheriff needs to be a man of great courage and firmness to deal with this class of offenders.

"When the Superior Court is in session, the Sheriff must be in attendance to carry out the orders of the Superior Judge. In his capacity as principal peace officer it is his duty to sup-

press all riots and unlawful assemblies, and if he is unable to do this alone, he can require as many citizens as he may need to help him. The summoning of other men to asssist him in a case of this kind is called raising a posse. This is a power, however, which he rarely finds it necessary to employ.

CORONER.

"When the Sheriff for any reason cannot perform the duties of his office, it becomes the duty of the Coroner to act in his place.

"The principal duties of the Coroner, however, have reference to the investigation of the death of persons who die under suspicious circumstances. Whenever he hears of a death that is suspected to have been other than natural, it is his duty to investigate the case. If he finds there is reasonable ground for the belief that the person's death was caused by unlawful means at the hands of another, it is his duty to summon six men to act as jurors. The Coroner's Jury, as it is called, immediately meets with the Coroner and proceeds to ascertain, if possible, the cause of death. They examine the body and hear such evidence as is offered concerning the matter. This is called a Coroner's inquest.

"The Coroner has the same power to issue subpœnas for witnesses that the Superior Judge has. He usually summons a surgeon or physician to examine the body and give his opinion as to the cause of death.

"After the jury has viewed the remains and heard all the evidence they retire and agree upon a verdict. If the evidence in the case indicates that the death was a natural one, they return a verdict to that effect; if the evidence indicates that the death resulted from the use of unlawful means by another person, and they are unable to discover who the guilty person is,

they will return a verdict to that effect; but if the evidence indicates that the person was killed by another and further shows who the guilty person is, then their verdict would be to the effect that the deceased came to his death by unlawful means and at the hands of that particular person.

"In case of a verdict like this the Coroner will immediately issue a warrant for the arrest of the person named, which the Sheriff will at once serve.

"If the office of the Coroner is vacant, or if he be absent or unable to act, any Justice of the Peace in the county may act in his stead.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

"You will remember that I told you at the beginning of our discussion of the court department of the county government that the Coroner, Justices of the Peace and Constables are subordinate court officers. Their duties do not connect them directly with the work of the Superior Court, and yet they fill a very important place.

"The Superior Court is not always in session, and in those cases where more than one county is embraced in a judicial district the Superior Judge himself cannot always be reached, yet at any time a crime may be committed, and it may be necessary for public safety that steps be taken immediately for the arrest of the criminal. Then again, the arrest having been made, the person arrested is entitled, under the laws of this country, to a speedy hearing, which could not always be given him if he could be arraigned only before the Superior Judge.

"You should remember that under our laws a man accused of a crime is always supposed to be innocent until he has been proven guilty. If we are to accept the fact of his innocence

until his guilt has been finally established it is only fair that he be given an immediate opportunity of having his case heard. For all these reasons it has been deemed wise to create under-judges, who are called Justices of the Peace.

"A Justice of the Peace, like a Superior Judge, has to do with both civil and criminal cases. He is authorized to hear, try and determine civil cases in which the amount involved does not exceed one hundred dollars.

"There are several reasons why he is given jurisdiction in this class of cases. In the first place, it relieves the Superior Court of a large amount of business which is not very important, and which would otherwise use so much time that more important litigation might be greatly delayed. And again, the court costs of a case in the Superior Court are considerable, and a person having a case which does not involve much might hesitate about bringing his suit.

"Each election precinct in the county is entitled to one Justice of the Peace, though a larger number is sometimes provided for precincts having a considerable population.

"These under-judges also have power to hear, try and determine a certain class of criminal cases, and in that connection can pass sentence of fine or imprisonment upon a person convicted of these offenses. It is only, however, in respect to minor offenses that a Justice of the Peace has this power. In the trial of these cases a jury of six men may be summoned if the defendant desires, and the case is tried as criminal cases are tried in the Superior Court.

"In all other criminal cases a Justice of the Peace acts as a committing magistrate. In this capacity he does not undertake to determine absolutely whether the man accused of a crime is

guilty, but only whether from the evidence there is reasonable ground for believing that he is guilty.

"When a crime has been committed, any person who has knowledge of its commission may go to a Justice of the Peace and make a complaint. The complaint is put in writing and sworn to by the person making it. Thereupon the Justice of the Peace issues a warrant for the arrest of the person accused, which is served by the Sheriff or by a Constable.

"After a person has been arrested, the Justice of the Peace investigates the case. The witnesses are summoned and the testimony for and against the defendant is heard. If from the evidence the Justice of the Peace does not believe that a crime has been committed, or that the defendant is guilty in the event one appears to have been committed, he will discharge the defendant. Otherwise he will bind him over to appear before the Superior Court to answer any indictment or information which may be filed against him. This means the person must give a bond to so appear and answer. Such a bond is called an appearance bond.

"In giving a bond, those who sign for the prisoner promise to forfeit a certain amount of money to the state if he fails to appear before the Superior Court and answer any information or indictment which may be filed against him. Should he fail to appear, the bondsmen have to pay the amount promised.

"It is the duty of the Prosecuting Attorney to see that in all cases where such bonds have been forfeited by the failure of the defendant to appear, the penalty provided by the bond be enforced as against the bondsmen. This is done by bringing a civil suit against the persons who signed the bond.

"In the event a person is bound over to appear before the

Superior Court and fails to give an appearance bond, he is committed to the custody of the Sheriff, who is required to keep him in the county jail until the Superior Court convenes.

"Appearance bonds are accepted in all kinds of criminal cases save one — when a man has been arrested for murder and the magistrate believes from the evidence that the crime has been committed and the person accused is guilty of its commission, a bond for his appearance will not be accepted and the prisoner must remain in the custody of the Sheriff until the Superior Court meets.

CONSTABLE. "The Sheriff can serve and execute all papers and orders which issue from a justice court if so desired, but the office of Constable, who is a kind of under-sheriff, is created by the law for this purpose.

"The Constable, like the Justice of the Peace, is elected by the voters who live in the election precinct for which he is chosen. It is his duty to do for the Justice Court about what the Sheriff is required to do for the Superior Court.

THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS. "We have now finished the discussion of the business department of the county government, and I will tell you something about the school department. You should understand that these divisions of the county government are of my own making, my idea being that if I divided the general subject in this way you would more easily understand what I said. As a matter of fact the work of all three of these departments is county business. The character

SCHOOL

GOVERNMENT

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of the school work, however, naturally separates it from the rest of the county business.

"At first thought you might think that the matter of maintaining schools was something that concerned only the people who have children. Of course such people are very much interested in the maintenance of public schools, as they naturally wish their children to have the best possible educational advantages. But there is a broader reason for the establishment of the public school system. At one time in this country there was no such thing as a public school. Private schools were maintained wherever a sufficient number of people could be found who were willing and able to pay for the education of their children. The disadvantages of this system, however, long ago became apparent.

"In the first place, these private schools could not be graded as our schools are, and the children of any particular grade could not receive the attention which should be given them.

"Again, only well-to-do people could afford to keep their children in school. The result was that a large proportion of the children grew up with little or no education. This made very little difference so far as the public was concerned in the days when people were ruled by kings, but with the establishment of more popular forms of government like our own Republic it became evident that the people at large were the losers if any considerable portion of the children grew up without an opportunity of receiving an education. A little thought will show you how this must be true.

"In a country where people govern themselves, and public questions sooner or later are decided by popular vote the grade of intelligence of the individual voter is of the highest import-

ance to the whole country. If we are to have a wise and just administration of public affairs the individual voter of the country must be capable, both as to intelligence and honesty, of deciding what is wise and just.

"So you see all the people of this country, whether they have children of their own or not, ought to be interested in seeing that the very best opportunities are given for the children of the country to secure an education.

"These things becoming apparent, at an early day in the history of our country steps were taken for the establishment of public schools which would be free to the children of all the people. The system has grown and been greatly improved since it was first established, and now exists in all the states of the Union. The children of the poorest parents have in this state to-day a better chance to secure an education than the children of the rich people had a hundred years ago.

"This improvement in our public schools has been largely the result of our system of superintendence. I have explained to you that under our system of school government each school district is allowed to manage its own schools. While this is true, there are certain things which the county and the state reserve the right to do in relation to all public schools. This system of state and county superintendence guarantees not only competent teachers, but constant improvement in the course of study to be pursued.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

"The officer in the county who exercises on behalf of the state and the county this superintendence, is called the Superintendent of Schools. He is elected, as the other officers of the county are, by the voters of the county. He is required by law

to visit the schools in his county, and to see that the laws of the state in relation to public schools are observed. He distributes to the districts such blanks as are required, and makes an annual report of the condition of the schools in his county to the State Superintendent.

"Every year a census must be taken of all the children in the county who are of school age. The reason for this will be explained a little later on. This census, or enumeration, is made by the clerks of the various school districts. Their several reports are sent to the Superintendent of Schools, and the result of the enumeration is compiled by him.

"It is to the Superintendent of Schools that the teachers make their annual reports. These reports contain, among other things, the length of the term, the number of the pupils in the various grades, the total number of days' attendance, the number of cases of tardiness, the number of cases of corporal punishment, of suspension and of expulsion, the number of visits made by the County Superintendent, by the District Clerk, by the Directors, and by parents or guardians.

"From the teachers' annual reports the County Superintendent is able to make a full report to the State Superintendent. Perhaps the most important element in the teacher's annual report is the number of days' attendance, for, as you will see further on, the amount of money each district receives from the state fund depends upon the total number of days of school attendance.

"If the pupils in the public schools, and more particularly in the smaller schools, realized that the length of their school term depends in no small measure upon their regular attendance, I believe there would be fewer absences.

"It is the duty of the Superintendent of Schools to see that teachers have certificates entitling them to teach. He may grant temporary and special certificates to teachers who have not had an opportunity to take the regular teachers' examination.

"He should see that the course of study adopted by the State Board of Education is followed in all the schools in the county.

"Quarterly teachers' examinations are conducted by the School Superintendent. The State Board of Education sends, every three months, to each County Superintendent a printed list of questions. The applicants for teachers' certificates write out in full, in the presence of the Superintendent, the answers to these questions. Their papers are then collected by the Superintendent and sent to the State Superintendent for examination, marking, etc.

"One of the most important duties of the Superintendent of Schools is the apportionment of the school fund. When we come to discuss the matter of state government, I will explain to you where the money comes from with which the public schools of the state are supported.

"Every three months a certain amount, representing the county's share of the state current school fund, is sent to the County Treasurer. To this is added any amount there may be in the county school fund. The County Superintendent adds these two sums together and proceeds in the following manner to apportion it among the various school districts of his county: He takes the total amount of money to be distributed and divides it by the total number of days of school attendance for the whole county during the previous year. This gives him a certain amount of money for each day's attendance. He then

multiplies the number of days' attendance in each district for the previous year by this amount and the result is the amount of money each district is entitled to receive under that apportionment.

"For example, suppose that the amount to be distributed is six thousand dollars and the whole number of days of school attendance in the county for the preceding year had been two hundred thousand days. The amount to be credited for each day's school attendance would be three cents. Now, suppose that in our district the total number of days' attendance for last year was five thousand, how much money would we be entitled to?"

The children figured busily for a moment and then Sam said:

"Five thousand days at three cents a day would be fifteen hundred dollars."

"No, it wouldn't," interposed Dora. "You should point off two decimal places. It would be one hundred and fifty dollars; wouldn't it, papa?"

"Yes, Dora is right," said her father. "Under such an apportionment our share would be one hundred and fifty dollars.

"The County Superintendent has power to fill by appointment any vacancy that may occur in school district offices. It is his duty, in counties having twenty-five districts or more, to hold, at least once a year, a county institute. This is a gathering of the teachers of the county for the discussion of questions relating to their professions.

"This concludes the subject of county government. But I think I ought to give you a word of caution in respect to this phrase as I have used it. I have spoken of school district government and of county government, but I do not want you to

get the idea that they are in any sense separate, or that they are not a part of the state and national government. When we speak of our government we include all these things. You remember our definition of government is the fixed rules under which the people live together, and naturally that includes everything relating to school districts, road districts, county, state, and national government.

"As we advance in the discussion, you will understand better how all these different forms of local government join in the general form of state government, and, finally uniting with the governments of all the states, blend into the national government.

"To-morrow night we will begin the discussion of the government of the State of Washington."

SUMMARY.

Sheriff and his duties. Various forms of court orders. Coroner and his duties. Coroner's jury. Verdict. Justices of the Peace. Civil cases. Criminal cases. Preliminary examinations. Appearance bonds. Constables. Public schools. Superintendence. Superintendent of Schools. School census. Teachers' reports. Teachers' examinations and certificates. Apportionment school funds.

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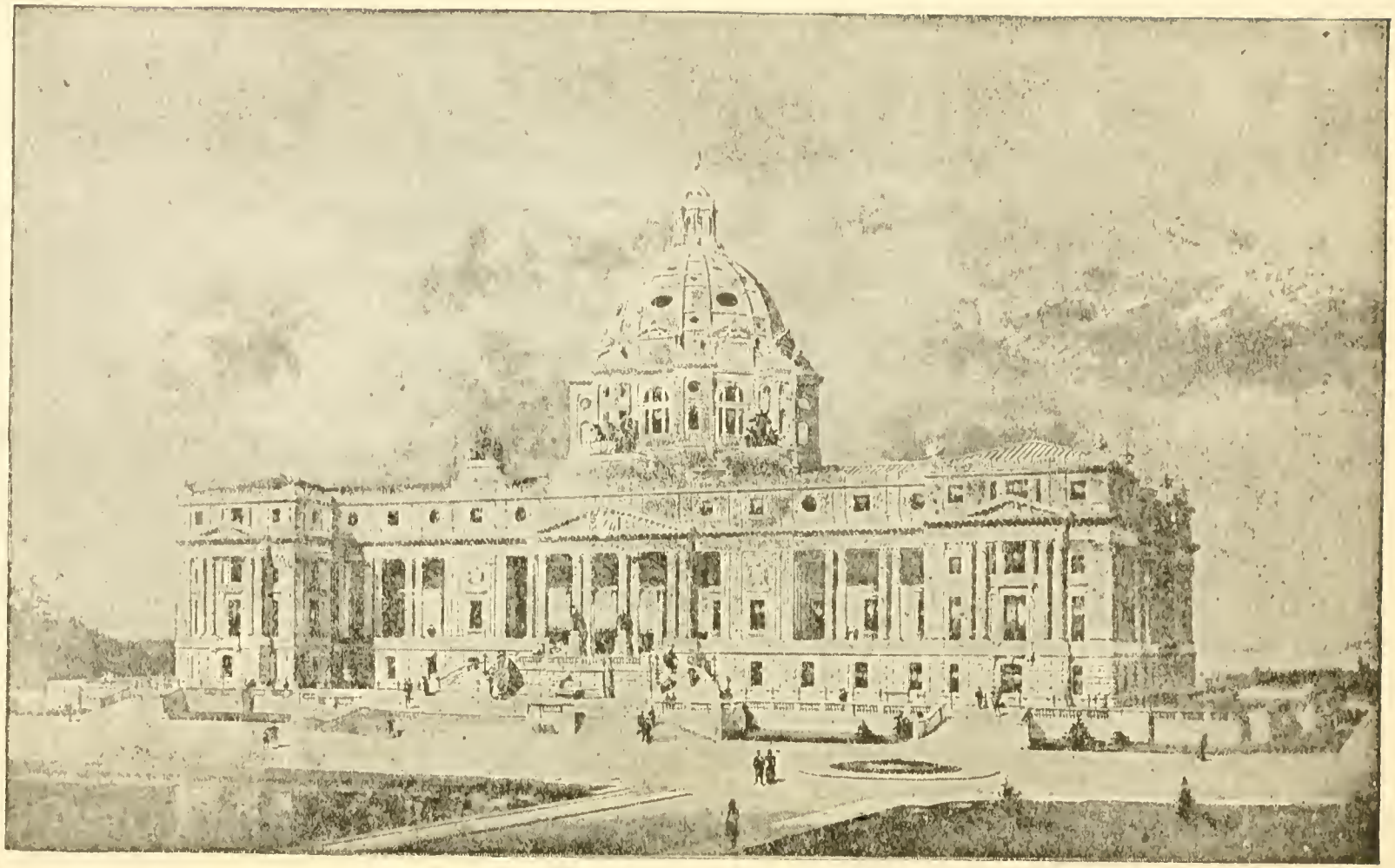
STATE



GOVERNMENT

CHAPTER IX.

Wednesday Evening's Talk.

When the family were comfortably seated for the evening's talk, Mr. Grant began by asking:

"What is the next officer according to our diagram?"

"There aren't any more," replied Dora.

"Yes," continued her father, "we have finished the list of officers who attend to the business of the county. But you will remember that I told you that counties are only small portions into which the state is divided. The laws which make our county government are not county laws but state laws. They apply in the same way to all the other counties as they do to ours. We can not understand much about county government until we study our state government and learn how these laws are made.

STATE GOVERNMENT.

"Our nation is made up of a number of states. The people of the nation at large do some things in common, but in most respects the people of the several states are permitted to make their own laws.

"There was a time when Washington was not a state. It was, however, a part of the United States territory. As soon

as the population of the Territory of Washington became large enough, it was admitted into the Union as a state and given the same rights of self-government that the other states enjoy.

"When the people of the Territory of Washington asked for admission as a state, they adopted what is called a Constitution. The Constitution of a state is a document giving the outlines of the government of the state.

"The Constitution of Washington provides that the state government shall consist of three departments, to be known as the Legislative, the Executive, and the Judicial.

"The Legislative Department is that which makes and changes the laws of the state.

"The Executive Department is that which carries into effect the laws made by the Legislative Department.

"The Judicial Department is that which construes the meaning of the laws of the state in all cases where there is a difference of opinion.

"The government of the public schools is, properly speaking, part of the work of the Executive Department, but I think it will be easier for us to deal with that subject by itself. So our diagram for the state government will be something like this:"

Here Mr. Grant erased from the blackboard the diagram of the county government and wrote the following:

STATE GOVERNMENT.

Legislative Department	The Constitution House of Representatives Senate The Governor's Veto Lieutenant Governor
Executive Department	Governor Secretary of State Auditor Treasurer Commissioner of Public Lands Boards and Commissions
Judicial Department	Justices of the Supreme Court Attorney General
Educational Department	Superintendent of Public Instruction Board of Education State Educational Institutions

"You will see that the general divisions of the state government are practically the same as those I adopted in discussing the county government. The legislative department, of course, is a new feature, but the executive department corresponds to the business department in our diagram of the county government; the judicial department to the court department, and the educational department to the school department.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

"In our country the people of a state have the power to organize any kind of a government they choose, so long as it does not conflict with the constitution of the United States.

"The constitution of the United States is a document which contains certain concessions made by the various states of the Union; that is, the people of the various states, in adopting the

constitution of the United States, surrender their natural right to do as they please in respect to the matters and things contained in that constitution.

"The federal constitution is sometimes spoken of as a grant of power. This idea is founded upon the theory that all power to make laws in this nation resides with the people of the several states. In this view the national government is created by virtue of the gift of power from the several states. What a state has given, of course, it cannot use, hence the people of the respective states are bound by their action in the adoption of the federal constitution.

"From this you will see that the people of a state, in taking the first step toward the organization of a state government, which is the adoption of a state constitution, must not violate either the letter or the spirit of the grant of power made by the states to the federal government.

STATE CONSTITUTION.

"The constitution of the state, when once adopted by the people of the state, becomes what is called the organic law of the state; that is, no law thereafter passed will have any force or effect if it is contrary to the provisions of the constitution.

"A constitution is adopted in the following manner: When the people of a territory desire admission to the federal government as a state, and to that end wish to provide themselves with a constitution, a convention, representing all the localities of the territory, is called for the purpose of framing a constitution. After the convention has deliberated upon the matter, and finally drafted a document which meets with the approval of the majority of its members, the result of their work is handed down to the people of the territory, who vote upon its adoption.

If a majority of the people living in the territory are satisfied with the action of the convention the constitution is said to have been adopted.

"The general character of the constitution of a state is exactly opposite to that of the constitution of the United States. The federal constitution, as I have explained, is a grant or gift of power to the nation from the states. It naturally follows that the nation has no power beyond that which is given, and can do nothing in the way of making laws which is not expressly authorized by the federal constitution. On the other hand, the state constitution is a limitation which the people place upon the power of the Legislature to make laws.

"The people of the state have the power to make any laws they see fit so long as they do not violate the letter or spirit of the federal constitution, which represents their gift of power to the general government.

"In adopting a state constitution they provide what is to be the chief law of the state. Thereafter everything they do in the way of making laws through their Legislature must be done in conformity with this highest law of the state. Therefore the Legislature of a state can do anything in the way of making laws which is not expressly prohibited by the state constitution.

"From what I have said I trust you will understand the reason for placing the constitution in the legislative department of the state government as I have outlined it in our diagram.

"The constitution of this state is not long, nor does it deal with the subjects of state government at large or in particular. On the other hand, it merely outlines the form of the state government, and leaves the Legislature to supply everything necessary to complete a perfect system of government.

LEGISLATURE. "The constitution of the State of Washington provides that the power to make laws shall be vested in two representative bodies, known as the House of Representatives and the Senate. These two bodies taken together constitute the Legislature of the State of Washington. Under the constitution of this state the House of Representatives must consist of not less than sixty-three nor more than ninety-nine members, and the Senate of not more than one-half nor less than one-third of the number of members of the House of Representatives.

"The State of Washington is divided into representative districts, and one member of the House is elected from each district. In the same way the state is divided into senatorial districts, one Senator being elected from each district.

"The Legislature meets at the state capital once in two years, its session being limited by the constitution to sixty days. Members of the House of Representatives are elected for two years and those of the Senate for four years.

"The two houses of the Legislature convene as separate bodies, and transact their business independently of each other, but no measure can become a law until it has been passed by both Houses. Many proposed laws are adopted by one House, but fail to pass the other House, and so do not become laws.

"The first act of the House of Representatives when it convenes is the election of a Speaker. The Speaker of the House of Representatives is very much what the chairman of an ordinary public meeting is. He presides over the deliberations of the House, preserves order during its sessions, and requires its business to be transacted in accordance with certain accepted rules and usages.

"In addition to this the Speaker appoints all regular and special committees. These committees are very important, as you will see in a moment.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR.

"When the Senate convenes they do not have to elect a presiding officer, for the reason that the constitution provides that the Lieutenant Governor shall act in that capacity. The duties of the Lieutenant Governor are, to act as President of the Senate, and in the event of the death, absence or inability of the Governor, to act as Governor of the state. In the event of the death of the Lieutenant Governor, or of his being called upon to act as Governor of the state, the Senate elects its President.

"The President of the Senate appoints the Senate Committees and generally acts in the same capacity as the Speaker of the House.

"The first step in the making of a law is the introduction of a bill by some member of the Legislature. The bill may be introduced in either the House or the Senate, but every bill, before it becomes a law, must be adopted by both bodies.

"The bill being introduced, the presiding officer refers it to the committee that has been appointed to examine this class of legislation. In the appointment of these committees, care is taken to select men who are familiar with the subject. For instance, the committee of agriculture is made up largely, if not wholly, of members who are farmers; the committee on fisheries, of members who are familiar with the fishing interests of the state; and so with the committees on mines and mining, education and educational interests, roads and bridges, etc.

"The judiciary committee is generally composed of lawyers, they being more familiar with the subject of courts and court

procedure than the other members would likely be. You should remember that both the Senate and the House have their own sets of committees.

"These committees hold regular committee meetings, at which all bills which have been introduced and referred to them are considered. The reasons in favor of the passage of a bill can be fully discussed and those persons who are interested in its adoption can present its commendable features.

"If the committee, after a careful discussion of the merits of the bill, is in favor of its adoption and passage, they report it back to their body with the recommendation that it pass. But if they believe that it would not be beneficial to the people of the state, they report it back with the recommendation that it do not pass.

"Frequently the committee is in favor of the measure, but does not entirely approve of the form of the bill presented, in which case they will prepare an amendment to the bill and report it back with the recommendation that the bill pass as amended.

"When a bill is introduced and before it is referred to the appropriate committee, it is read the first time. When it is reported by the committee with the recommendation that it be passed, it is read the second time. At this point any member may offer any amendment or change which he may desire, and if a majority of the members vote in favor of the amendment, it becomes a part of the bill, which is then passed to its third reading.

"After the bill has been passed to its third reading, it cannot be amended, and must either be adopted or rejected as it stands. The action of the House in adopting or rejecting the report of a committee, with its recommendation as to a bill, and

in determining any question of amendment that may arise on its second reading, is generally determined by a *viva voce* vote, unless the yeas and nays are demanded. But on the third reading of a bill, when the measure is upon its final passage, the yeas and nays must be taken.

"In taking a yea and nay vote of the House, the roll of all the members is called, and each member as his name is called, if he desires the measure to pass, votes 'yea,' and if he desires that the measure do not pass, votes 'nay.'

"If, on the third reading of a bill, a majority of the members of the House vote 'yea,' the bill is said to have passed. It is then ready for transmission to the other House.

"After a bill has passed one House and is transmitted to the other, it is there read the first time and referred to the appropriate committee, and, upon the report of that committee, it is read the second time and passed to its third reading. If upon its third reading the bill is passed, it is thereupon returned to the House in which it originated.

"The presiding officer of the House in which the bill originated then refers the bill to the enrolling committee, whose duty it is to see that the bill as passed is plainly enrolled in such a way as to make it a permanent record. This having been done, the bill is reported back as enrolled, and duly signed by the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate.

"It then lacks only the approval of the Governor to become a law of the state.

"The Legislature has complete control of the finances of the state. There are no state officers in the executive department who have in relation to the state government the powers which the County Commissioners exercise in relation to the county government.

"You will remember that the County Commissioners have power to disburse county money in the payment of county debts, and the general expense of running the county government. In the state government this important duty falls upon the Legislature. No public moneys can be lawfully paid out unless the Legislature expressly authorizes such payment.

"In this connection it is the duty of the appropriation committees of the two Houses to carefully consider the probable requirements of the various departments and institutions of the state government for the next two years. Then they agree upon what is called an approprtation bill, which authorizes the expenditure of such amounts as they deem necessary. The appropriation bill must be passed in the manner I have described. When passed it becomes the only authority which the State Auditor can have for drawing warrants upon the State Treasurer.

"In many cases other bills provide for an appropriation of money to carry into effect the provisions of the bill.

"The Legislature of the state is entrusted with another very important duty. This is the election of United States Senators. A little later on I shall have something to say as to our national government and the Congress of the United States.

"I may state here, however, that the United States Congress, like the state Legislature, is made up of two independent Houses, known as the House of Representatives and the Senate.

"The members of the House of Representatives are elected by the people of the states, but the members of the United States Senate are elected by the legislatures of the respective states.

"Each state is entitled to elect two members to the United

States Senate. In electing a United States Senator, the two Houses of the Legislature ballot separately for one day. If no person receives a majority of votes in each House, the two Houses thereafter meet in joint session for the purpose of balloting.

"Whenever a person receives a majority of the votes in the joint session, he is elected Senator.

"Both Houses of the Legislature keep a full record of their proceedings, and officers are chosen for that purpose. In the House of Representatives the officer is called the Chief Clerk. In the Senate he is called the Secretary.

"Each House also appoints its executive officer, who is known as the Sergeant-at-Arms. It is his duty to execute the commands of the body which he is appointed to serve, and to carry out the instructions of its presiding officer in the preservation of order.

"The part which the Lieutenant Governor takes in connection with the work of the legislative department of the state government has been already explained.

GOVERNOR'S VETO.

"The Governor of the state is the chief executive, and by far the larger portion of his duties comes within the executive department of the state government. He has, however, one duty which is related to the work of the legislative department. This is called the veto power.

"When a bill has been passed by both Houses of the Legislature, and, after being enrolled has been signed by the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate, it can become a law in three different ways: first, by the Governor's approval; second, by its re-passage by both Houses of the Legislature in

spite of his disapproval, or, as we say, over his veto; and third, without his approval.

"When a bill has been passed, enrolled and signed by the presiding officers of both Houses of the Legislature, it is transmitted to the Governor. If the Governor approves of the measure he writes at the bottom of the bill, 'approved,' adds the date of his approval, and signs his name as Governor. The bill has then become a law of the state. But if he does not approve of the measure, and is strong in his conviction that it should not become a law he writes at the bottom of the enrolled copy the word, 'disapproved,' and returns the bill to the Legislature. This is called vetoing a bill.

"Usually when the Governor vetoes a bill he transmits to the Legislature, at the same time he returns the bill, his reasons for disapproving the measure. A vetoed bill is returned to the House in which it originated, and is there taken up for consideration. The Governor's message, if there be one, is read, and a yea and nay vote is taken upon the question of the passage of the bill, notwithstanding the Governor's disapproval.

"A vetoed bill can become a law only when a two-thirds majority of each House of the Legislature is in favor of passing it over the Governor's veto. If such a majority of both Houses of the Legislature is in favor of its passage over the Governor's veto, it becomes a law.

"In the third case, if the Governor does not approve a measure, but does not wish to assume the responsibility of defeating it, he sometimes permits it to become a law without his signature. A bill which has passed both Houses of the Legislature and been transmitted to the Governor must be either approved

or disapproved by him within ten days. If in that time the Governor neither approves nor vetoes the bill it becomes a law.

SUMMARY.

Diagram state government. Constitution, Federal and State. Legislature. Lieutenant Governor. Speaker. Committees. History of a bill. Appropriations. Election of Senator. Governor's veto.

CHAPTER X.

Thursday Evening's Talk.

"Father," said Sam, "you told us last night how the laws of the state are made. Of course, the men who are members of the Legislature would know all about them, but how do the other people find out what the laws are?"

"Well, my son," replied Mr. Grant, "the people do not have the opportunity they should of knowing what the laws of the state are. After the Legislature adjourns, the laws made at that session are printed in a book called session laws. A copy of this book is sent free to each state and county officer, but if I wanted a copy, I would have to pay for it. I am supposed to know what the law is in every instance, and in case I fail to obey it I cannot plead ignorance of the law as an excuse, yet in our state no steps are taken to give the people an opportunity of knowing what laws the Legislature passes.

"Most men have neither the means nor the desire to buy all the books in which the laws of the state are printed, and yet we should, all of us, have an opportunity of knowing what they are. As it is, if I want to know what the law is upon any question, I must go to an attorney and, perhaps, be required to pay a fee for the information which the state should furnish me free.

"I think it would be a good idea for the state to provide for the publication of all new laws in some newspaper in each county throughout the state.

"As you know, I have a copy of the Code of Washington, which gives all the laws passed in this state up to the date of its publication. Laws made subsequent to its publication I can find out by looking at the session laws.

"We completed last night the discussion of the legislative department of our state government. What is the next general department according to our diagram?"

"The executive department," answered Dora.

"And what is the first officer in the executive department?"

"The Governor," said Tommy.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

GOVERNOR. "Apart from the exercise of the veto power given the Governor by the constitution, which is legislative in its character, the Governor's office is wholly and essentially executive.

"Speaking largely, it is his duty to see that the laws of the state are executed, that the various state officers are filled, and that all the state officers do their duty under the law.

"As the head of the state government, it is his duty to carry on all correspondence between the government of this state and the government of any other state or territory, or the government of the United States.

"As Chief Executive of the state, he prepares and transmits to the Legislature, immediately upon its assembling at the state capital, a message. The Governor's message to the Legislature consists of a general report of the condition of the various departments of the state government, together with such recommendations as to him may seem wise concerning matters upon which legislation is desirable.

"The Governor is given the power to fill, by appointment, any vacancy that may occur in any state office. It is also his duty to fill, by appointment, a large number of minor offices, which the laws of the state do not require to be filled by election. Most of these will be touched upon when we come to consider the subject of state boards and state institutions.

"You will remember I told you that the Legislature meets regularly every two years. If any exigency arises which makes it important that the Legislature should meet at other than the time of regular session as provided by law, the Governor is given the power to call what is known as an extra nession of the Legislature.

"In making his proclamation calling the Legislature together in extra session, it is his duty to state the purpose for which it is convened.

"Another important matter which is entrusted to the Governor by the constitution is the exercise of the pardoning power. When a man has been convicted of a crime in any of the courts in this state, and has been sentenced to death or imprisonment in the penitentiary, there is only one way by which he may be released from the effect of the sentence.

"It sometimes happens, though, I am glad to say, very rarely, that innocent men are convicted of crime. When this occurs it is generally in cases where the evidence is entirely circumstantial, although in some instances innocent men have been convicted upon false or perjured testimony of witnesses.

"It has been wisely determined that some provision should be made by which innocent men, who have been so unfortunate as to be unjustly convicted of crime, might be released from the effect of the sentence in the event of their innocence becoming subsequently apparent.

"Whenever a case is called to the Governor's attention, in which there appears to be good ground for believing there was an unjust conviction, the Governor can pardon the prisoner.

"There is another class of cases in which the pardoning power is sometimes used. A man who is in prison may have conducted himself so well as to impress those who know most of his case with the fact that he is reformed. His conduct as a prisoner having been good, and the larger part of his sentence having been served, he is sometimes pardoned, with the idea that this kindness shown him may encourage him in his good intentions.

"A prisoner is sometimes pardoned when he has served a considerable portion of his sentence, and has become either very old or infirm. In many cases strong extenuating circumstances connected with the crime, and the fact of a dependent family, weigh in favor of a pardon.

"The Governor needs to be very cautious in the exercise of this power, as otherwise the security of the people might be endangered by the release of cunning criminals.

"Closely connected with the pardoning power which the Governor exercises is the power to parole a convict. Whenever the Warden of the penitentiary recommends the suspension of a prisoner's sentence, the Governor may parole such convict, and permit him to go at large.

"There are certain limitations, however, upon the power to parole a prisoner. He must have been sentenced for a term less than life, and must have served at least one year of his term of sentence.

"When paroled he is at liberty to go where he wishes, so long as he does not leave the state. As long as he behaves himself he will be permitted to remain at large, but during the

remainder of his term of sentence the Governor can at any time order his re-arrest and return to the penitentiary.

"The Governor has power to offer rewards not exceeding a thousand dollars in any one case, payable out of the state treasury, for the apprehension of any person convicted of a felony who has escaped from the state penitentiary, or for any person who has committed or is charged with the commission of a felony.

"The power of the officers of the state whose duty it is to arrest persons accused of crime does not extend beyond the limits of the state, and when a person who is accused of the commission of a crime in this state escapes from the state the Governor can issue a requisition, addressed to the Governor of the state to which such person has fled. A Governor's requisition is a request for the arrest and return of the escaped criminal.

"When the Governor makes a requisition for the return of an escaped criminal, he appoints some person to act as the agent of this state for the delivery of the requisition and the return of the prisoner.

"It is the Governor's duty to receive and act upon requisitions made upon him by the governors of other states for the return of escaped criminals. If the papers which accompany the requisition are regular and make it plain that a crime has been committed and that the person sought to be returned is legally charged with its commission, the Governor will grant the requisition. These proceedings are called extradition proceedings.

"It is the Governor's duty to suppress riots in any part of the state, and any unlawful assembly, when he has reason to

fear that the persons engaged in the riot or unlawful assembly are attempting to commit a felony, or incite others to the commission of such crime, or when on account of such riot or unlawful assembly any other persons are in danger of losing life or property.

"Before the Governor can take action in the way of forcibly suppressing such riotous gatherings, he must first notify the proper county officials of the facts and request them to take such steps as are needed to avoid the threatened danger.

"If the local authorities fail or neglect, or are unable to suppress or control the disorderly gathering, and if the danger to the lives and property of the people continues, it is the duty of the Governor to employ the state militia in restoring order. The Governor, by the constitution, is made the Commander-in-Chief of the militia of the state, except when they shall be called into the service of the United States government.

"The state militia is a military organization consisting of a number of companies of soldiers organized in different localities throughout the state. They are made up of men who volunteer to serve in that capacity for three years.

"The officers of the several companies are commissioned by the Governor. Each company usually has a building which is called an armory, in which they meet regularly for company drill. Their arms and equipments are kept in the armory. The active officer in command of the state militia is called the Adjutant-General. He is appointed by the Governor.

"The state militia can be called out by the Governor for the suppression of riots or to prevent an armed invasion of the state. When the general government, in time of war, calls upon the state for troops, the state militia affords a body of men who are drilled and ready for service.

"The principal purpose, however, for the organization of the state militia is the protection of the citizens of the state from riots that may occur within the state, and the offering of immediate resistance to any invasion of the state by a foreign power, before the federal troops could be transported to the point at which the invasion is threatened.

"At least sixty days before a general election it is the duty of the Governor to issue the election proclamation, in which the offices to be filled are designated. A copy of this proclamation is sent to the Auditor of each county in the state.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

"The next officer in the executive department of the state government is the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State is the custodian of the enrolled copy of the constitution of the state, the laws passed by the several Legislatures of the state, the journals of the Legislature, the seal of the state, and all books, records, deeds, maps and papers required by law to be deposited and kept in his office.

"The Secretary of State prepares the copy and has printed the laws passed at each session of the Legislature. He is required to furnish each state and county officer with a copy of the session laws.

"It is his duty to keep a record of and attest all the official acts of the Governor. In attesting the Governor's official acts the Secretary of State affixes the seal of the State and signs his name as Secretary of State.

"The official bonds of all state officers are required to be filed with the Secretary of State.

"One of the principal duties of the Secretary of State is the keeping of all records relating to corporations organized

within the state. When a corporation is organized in this state it is required to file its articles of incorporation with the Secretary of State. The law requires that these articles of incorporation shall be recorded, that in the event the articles themselves shall be lost or destroyed a record will remain to show what they contained.

"The Secretary of State is required to furnish to the County Auditor of each county a blank, upon which the Auditor can make out a complete return of the results of a general election in his county. After a general election is held these election returns are transmitted to the office of the Secretary of State. The Secretary then ascertains from these returns which of the candidates for state offices have been elected, and certifies the result of the election to the Legislature when it convenes.

"The Secretary of State is made by law the Commissioner of Insurance. Under the laws of this state all insurance companies are required to do certain things before they are permitted to transact business in this state.

"The Insurance Commissioner is given authority to refuse insurance companies permission to do business in this state unless they make such a showing of their condition as to satisfy him that they are solvent, or able to meet all legal demands made upon them by their policy holders.

"All insurance companies are required each year to file with the Insurance Commissioner a statement of the business they have done in the State of Washington for the preceding year, and, upon the filing of such statement, if it proves to be satisfactory, the Commissioner will issue to the company a license to do business for the ensuing year.

"The purpose of this supervision of insurance companies by the state is to protect the people of the state from loss on account of business dealings with companies that are not responsible.

"The Secretary of State is required at the close of each two years of his term of office to render to the Governor of the state a written report of his department. In this report he generally includes such recommendations in respect to needed legislation as may commend themselves to his judgment.

AUDITOR. "The duties of the State Auditor are somewhat similar to those of the County Auditor. He keeps all the books and accounts for the state, and all papers in relation to the revenue, disbursements and debts of the state. No state moneys can be paid out by the State Treasurer, except upon a warrant issued by the State Auditor. The state moneys are, as in the case of the county, kept in a number of different funds, and the warrants which the Auditor issues are always drawn against one of these several funds. The Treasurer reports to the Auditor all moneys which he receives, and the Auditor's books will always show the amount of money which should be in each of the several state funds.

"The method of disbursing state moneys is somewhat different from the method used in the counties. In the counties, you will remember, the Board of County Commissioners had charge of the payment of all bills against the county, and it is only upon their orders that the Auditor issues warrants. In the state government, however, there are no officers corresponding to the Board of County Commissioners. The Legislature must in all cases authorize, by law, the expenditure of public moneys, before the Auditor is authorized to draw a warrant upon the Treasurer.

"All accounts for salaries or services or materials due by the state are settled in the following manner:

"When the salaries become due, or the services have been rendered, or the materials have been furnished, a statement of the amount due is made in writing. This statement of the state's indebtedness is certified to by the head of the department in which it has been incurred. Such a certified statement of indebtedness is called a voucher.

"When a voucher has been filed with the Auditor, it is his duty to audit the account; that is, he examines the voucher and determines if the salary charged for, the services rendered, or the materials furnished, are such as the law permits. If the charge appears from the voucher to be a lawful one, he then ascertains as to whether the Legislature, by appropriation, has expressly authorized its payment. Sometimes the amount of money appropriated by the Legislature for a certain department of the state government proves insufficient for the needs of the department, in which event the Auditor has no right to issue a warrant upon a voucher after the appropriation has been exhausted, even though the charge is a proper and lawful one.

"The warrants issued by the Auditor are numbered consecutively, there being as many series of consecutive numbering as there are separate funds against which warrants are drawn. A warrant is made payable to the person in whose favor the voucher is drawn, but he may, by indorsement, authorize the payment of the money to any other person.

"State warrants provide for a certain amount of annual interest until they shall be paid. Like county warrants, they must be paid in the order of their issuance.

149478

"The Auditor keeps a register of all warrants issued by him, showing the number, date, amount, and to whom and for what issued, with an additional column in which to enter the date on which each warrant is returned or paid.

"It is the duty of the Auditor to make a report to the Legislature at the beginning of each session. In his report he is required to make a full statement of the expenditures of the state, and the amount of money received from all sources, together with an estimate of the revenue and expenditures for the ensuing two years.

"He must also make a full and detailed statement of the public debt. His report must contain a tabular statement, showing separately the whole amount of each appropriation of money made by the last Legislature, the amount paid out under the same, and the balance unexpended.

"The report also contains a tabular statement showing separately the amount of money paid into the treasury from all sources during the preceding two years, the amount received from each county, and the source of revenue in each county for state purposes.

"If state warrants are not presented for redemption or payment within the period of five years from the date of their issuance it is the duty of the Auditor to enter them as canceled on the books of his office, and to notify the Treasurer of his action.

"If after cancellation the holder of the warrant shall present the same to the Auditor that officer may issue a new warrant in place of the old one. In case of the loss or destruction of any state warrant the Auditor is empowered to issue a duplicate warrant in place of the one lost or destroyed, provided the per-

son shall make affidavit of its loss or destruction, and give bond to protect the state in the event it should ever be found and presented for payment.

SUMMARY.

Governor and his duties. Extra session. Pardons. Paroles. Fugitives from justice. Extradition. Riots. Militia. Secretary of State and his duties. Commissioner of Insurance. Auditor and his duties.

CHAPTER XI.

Friday Evening's Talk.

Friday evening Mr. Grant had hardly taken his chair by the fire before Dora was ready with a question.

"Father," she said, "what is a corporation? You know you said last night that they had to file their articles with the Secretary of State."

"Why do you ask, Dora?" said Mr. Grant.

"Well," said Dora, "Sam says that a corporation is a town, but I thought it was some kind of a company in which there were a great many partners."

"I am really pleased," said Mr. Grant, "that you are sufficiently interested in these matters to talk them over among yourselves. When did this discussion occur?"

"Coming home from school," answered Dora. "Sam says he knows a corporation is a town. Is it?"

"Well," replied Mr. Grant, "you are both right in a way. Cities and towns are called municipal corporations. There are very few municipal corporations compared with general corporations. A corporation, other than municipal, is an organization by which a number of men put their money together to carry on some kind of business. It is more than a partnership or a mere association.

"In organizing a corporation articles of incorporation are prepared and signed. They contain the name of the corpora-

tion, a statement of its objects and purposes, the principal place at which its business shall be carried on, the amount of its capital stock, the time for which it shall exist, which must not exceed fifty years, the number and names of the trustees who shall manage its affairs, etc.

"Large business enterprises are generally organized in the form of corporations. Railroad companies, large manufacturing establishments, most banks, and many of the larger business firms are corporations.

"A corporation is regarded by law as a person, and it can deal with others as an individual might. Corporations have very largely increased in number throughout the country of late years. In some cases a large number of corporations all over the country engaged in the same kind of business combine to form what is called a Trust.

"Corporations are not of themselves an evil, indeed, they have made possible a great measure of the larger improvements which have taken place in this country. It is only when they combine so as to practically control the manufacture or supply of some article of general public necessity that they become an evil.

"Churches and benevolent or social societies are sometimes incorporated. Let me see. What department of state government are we discussing?"

"The executive department," answered Tommy, quickly.

"And what is the next officer we are to talk about?"

"The Treasurer," said Dora.

TREASURER. "The duties of the State Treasurer are very similar to those of the County Treasurer. He receives, keeps and pays out all the moneys of the state.

"When the Treasurer receives any money it is his duty to prepare a receipt for the person paying the same, and also a second receipt, identical with the first, to be filed with the State Auditor.

"It is the duty of the Treasurer to render his accounts in detail to the Auditor, for settlement every quarter, and oftener if required. The Auditor can easily make this settlement, for he has an account of all the warrants which the Treasurer has paid, and all the moneys he has received during that period.

"When a warrant is presented to the Treasurer for payment, and there is sufficient money in the fund against which it is drawn to pay the same, and if there are no outstanding or unpaid warrants against that fund the Treasurer will pay the warrant in cash.

"But if there is no money in the fund, or if there are outstanding warrants against the fund, the Treasurer will indorse the warrant, 'Not paid for want of funds.' From the time of this endorsement the warrant will draw interest at the rate named on its face.

"When there are a number of outstanding warrants against a fund, and an amount of money accumulates in the fund, it is the duty of the Treasurer to make what is called a warrant call. In doing this he calculates how many of the outstanding warrants the amount on hand will redeem, taking into account the amount of interest that has accrued. He then publishes a notice in some newspaper to the effect that all warrants from a certain number to a certain number, drawn against that fund, will be paid, if presented on or after a certain date. If any of these warrants which have been called are not presented for payment on the date named in the notice they will from that time cease to draw interest.

"When the Treasurer pays a warrant he requires the person to whom he pays it to sign his name upon the back of the warrant, as evidence of its payment. All warrants that have been paid are returned by the Treasurer to the Auditor, with his quarterly statement.

"The State Treasurer is required to keep the state moneys in a number of funds, as you will remember the County Treasurer is required to do. There is (1) the general fund, out of which the salaries of state officials, and the expenses for maintaining the various departments of the state government are paid; (2) the military fund, out of which the expense of maintaining the state militia is paid; (3) the current school fund, out of which the expense of maintaining the public schools is paid; (4) the state bond interest fund, out of which the interest on outstanding state bonds is paid, and a sinking fund created for the ultimate redemption of the bonds. These are the funds, as you will remember, for which the county Commissioners make a levy upon the property in their counties.

"The County Treasurer sends to the State Treasurer every month the amount he receives for these funds. There are other sources, however, from which the State Treasurer receives considerable money for the general fund and the current school fund. All money received from the sale, or lease of tide land goes into the general fund. I will have something to say about the state's tide lands a little later.

"The permanent school fund is a fund created by the sale of state school lands. This fund the Treasurer is required to keep intact. It cannot be reduced. It may, however, be invested and so be made to earn something each year in the way of interest. The proceeds of such investment go into the current school fund.

"See if you can keep the distinction between these two school funds clearly in mind. The permanent school fund, as its name indicates, is a permanent fund that cannot be reduced. The current school fund is provided for the maintenance of the public schools of the state. The earnings of the permanent school fund go into the current school fund.

"As to the grant of land made by the general government to the State of Washington for the creation of the permanent school fund, I shall have something more to say when I come to the discussion of the duties of the Commissioner of Public Lands.

"The method of the division of the current school fund among the various counties of the state will be treated when we come to the discussion of the duties of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

"There are four special funds which the Treasurer is obliged to keep separate: the fish hatchery fund; the grain inspection fund; the pure food fund, and the library fund. All of these funds are created by the payment of certain fees and fines which I will tell you about when we come to discuss the subject of Boards and Commissions.

"There are, besides all these funds, several others which are created by the sale of lands granted by the general government to the State of Washington for certain special purposes.

"There is one grant of this kind for the construction of public buildings at the state capital; another for the building and support of state charitable, educational, penal, and reformatory institutions; another for state normal schools; another for scientific schools; another for an agricultural college, and another for the state university.

"Whenever any of the land belonging to any one of these grants is sold, the proceeds of the sale will go into that particular fund, and remain there until its expenditure is authorized by the Legislature.

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS.

"The next officer in the executive department of the state government is the Commissioner of Public Lands. He has charge of the interests of the state in connection with the various grants of land made to the state by the United States. The sale or lease of state tide lands, and the leasing of harbor areas are also under his control.

"The first state lands about which I tell you are those granted by the general government to the state for creation of the permanent school fund. In addition to these lands the general government, by law, gives to the permanent school fund five per cent. of all the moneys received from the sale of government lands in the State of Washington.

"The idea of making this grant of land to the state for school purposes is that when all the lands shall have been sold, a very large amount of money will have accumulated in the permanent school fund, the earnings of which will go very far towards supporting the schools of the state.

"As I have said, this fund cannot be reduced, but the interest received from its investment is each year paid into the current school fund. Any moneys that may be received as rents from the school lands that have been leased are also paid into the current school fund.

"The land grant made by the general government for the creation of a permanent school fund is a specific grant, sections sixteen and thirty-six in each township being given to the state as school lands.

"This, however, will not affect the rights of any person who has established a residence upon the public school land before the making of the government survey. You can see that this is no more than just. Before the survey is made any one establishing a residence would have no means of knowing that he was locating on school land. A person locating upon land in this way before the government survey is made is called a 'squatter,' and has the first right after the survey is perfected of making application for the land he occupies.

"In the event of a squatter's right attaching to any of the school lands, it is the duty of the Commissioner of Public Lands to make a selection from the other unoccupied government lands in the state, in lieu of the land lost to the school grant by the squatter's location. In this way the full amount of the grant to the state for school purposes is preserved.

"With the single exception of the school lands, the grants made by the general government to the state are not specific, that is, they do not say what lands are given to the state. They simply give a certain number of acres for the purposes named in the grant.

"In respect to these grants, it is the duty of the Commissioner of Public Lands to make selections from the unoccupied government lands in the state; that is, he must select enough government land to make the number of acres granted by the United States.

"He need not select this land in a body, but may take a piece here and a piece there, until the whole amount selected equals the amount of the grant in acres. Naturally, if he has the interests of the state at heart, he will try to select the best quality of land available, and in order to do this, he employs men who are called cruisers.

"These men make a careful examination of the various bodies of unoccupied government land within the state, and select for the respective grants that which is of the best quality. In this way the grants come to be definite, and the rights of the state under the grants attach to particularly described tracts of land.

"After the Commissioner of Public Lands has made the selections necessary to complete the number of acres granted by the general government for each of the objects I have named, he reports the land so selected to the Board of State Land Commissioners.

"Now, I wonder if you remember all of the land grants made by the general government to this state."

"There is a grant of land for the permanent school fund," answered Dora.

"And one for capital buildings," said Sam.

"That is right," said Mr. Grant. "There is another for state charitable, educational, penal and reformatory institutions. That includes institutions like the penitentiary, the insane asylums, the reform school, etc.

"There is also a grant for normal schools; another for the state scientific schools; another for the agricultural college, and another for the state university.

"The selection of lands under the government grants having been completed, the Commissioner of Public Lands, assisted in some cases by the Board of State Land Commissioners, becomes charged with their control and disposition.

"The Commissioner of Public Lands can lease any of the lands selected on account of the several grants, if he sees fit. A person desiring to lease any land belonging to the state makes an application to the Commissioner, and if the application is

granted, a lease is executed, by the terms of which the person will pay to the state a certain sum of money each year for the use of the land.

"This money will go into the fund in the state treasury, for the creation of which the grant was made. The sole exception to this rule is in the case of a lease of school lands where the rent received goes into the current rather than the permanent school fund.

"A person desiring to purchase any state land, or the timber upon any state land, makes a formal application to the Commissioner of Public Lands. The Commissioner then sends a 'cruiser' to examine the land or the timber and report upon its value.

"The 'cruiser' having reported, the Commissioner appraises the land or the timber, as the case may be, and sends to the County Auditor of the county in which the land is situated, a notice, to be posted in his office for thirty days. This notice states the fact of the application for the purchase, and the amount at which the Commissioner has appraised the land or timber.

"After the County Auditor has certified to the Commissioner of Public Lands that the notice has been posted in his office for thirty days, the Commissioner orders the sale. A notice is published for thirty days, giving the time and place of the sale, and the appraised price. The sale takes place in the office of the County Auditor, and at public auction. No bid for a less amount than the appraised value will be received.

"The County Auditor having reported the result of the sale to the Commissioner of Public Lands, the whole matter is laid before the Board of State Land Commissioners, whose duty it is

to approve the sale. If there is no objection raised to the sale within thirty days the Board of State Land Commissioners will approve the sale, and certify their action to the Commissioner of Public Lands, who will thereupon execute the deed or contract, as the case may be, to the purchaser.

"The Board of State Land Commissioners consists of the Commissioner of Public Lands, the Secretary of State and the Superintendent of Public Instruction. As we have seen, it is their duty to approve all sales of state lands.

"If, during the thirty days which must expire before they finally approve the sale of any state land, there is any objection raised to the sale, it is the duty of the board to hear and determine the matter.

"Contests are sometimes brought by persons who claim to have a prior right to purchase that particular land, and in other cases the person applying for purchase protests against the appraisement of the Commissioner of Public Lands as being too high. In either of these cases the board will hear such evidence as is offered by the contestant or protestant, and decide the matter as it thinks right.

"Another important duty of the Board of State Land Commissioners is the investment of the permanent school fund. Of course, this fund, which is a large and growing one, will be of no service to the schools of the state if it is not made to earn something in the way of interest.

"The State Board of Land Commissioners is authorized by law to invest the money in this fund in certain classes of securities, which are known to be safe. The law also provides that, in the event there shall be at any time five thousand dollars or more in the permanent school fund, which has not

been invested, the Auditor and the Governor may issue a state bond for the amount, bearing interest.

"The money is then turned into the general fund and may be used to call and redeem outstanding state warrants against the general fund, or to cancel state bonded indebtedness. Both outstanding warrants and state bonds bear interest, and the idea is that it is better for the people of the state that this interest should be paid into the current school fund than that it should be paid to the individuals who hold the outstanding warrants or bonds.

"The Commissioner of Public Lands has another important duty. It is the platting and sale or lease of state tide lands. In all bodies of salt water the tide, as you know, regularly rises and falls. Consequently there must be a strip of land lying between high tide and low tide. This strip is called tide land. There is a great deal of tide land in this state, for, as you know, the state is bounded on the west by the Pacific Ocean. More than that, the coast line is frequently indented with bays and inlets—Puget Sound alone having hundreds of miles of tide lands.

"These tide lands belong to the State of Washington, and the control of these lands is a part of the duty of the Commissioner of Public Lands.

"Much of the tide land is very valuable, especially in the vicinity of cities and towns, and it is upon land of this kind also that oysters are cultivated.

"Everything which the state receives from the sale or lease of its tide lands goes into the general fund, and increases by that much the amount which the state receives from the several counties for the general expenses of the state government.

"Another duty with which the Commissioner of Public Lands is charged is the management of the harbor areas of the state. Whenever a city is situated on the shores of a body of salt water there is a certain area established by law known as the harbor area. This lies between the outer margin of the tide land, and a line beyond which docks and piers cannot be built.

"The state does not sell any portion of the harbor area. It simply grants to the applicant the right to construct wharves and docks, with necessary warehouses, under a contract by which the person enjoying the privilege is to pay to the state a certain amount of money each year.

"The state furthermore reserves the right to establish certain rules and regulations for the management of wharves, docks and warehouses built upon the harbor area. It also reserves the right to establish the rate of wharfage which may be charged. This is done to prevent any person or corporation securing a monopoly of the water frontage of a city, or charging excessive rates.

"When any person or company wishes to secure the privilege of building wharves, docks or warehouses upon the harbor area, an application is made to the Commissioner of Public Lands.

"If there be no objection raised by other persons claiming prior rights to the same privilege, the Commissioner, after advertisement, will execute a lease of the location desired, stipulating in the contract the rates which are to be charged for wharfage, etc.

"Our talk this evening, and especially that part of it relating to the various land grants to the state, their selection

and the method of their disposition, has not been as easy for you to understand as I would like to have made it. I want you to try to remember as much of it as you can, and tomorrow night we will begin with a little review of this evening's discussion.

SUMMARY.

Treasurer and his duties. Settlement. Quarterly settlement. Payment warrants. Warrant call. Four general funds. Four special funds. Permanent and current school funds. Commissioner of Public Lands and his duties. State grants. Selection. Lease and sale. State Board of Land Commissioners. Tide lands. Harbor areas.

CHAPTER XII.

Saturday Evening's Talk.

"I wonder how much you children remember," said Mr. Grant, "of what I said last night about the various land grants made by the general government to the State of Washington. Suppose you tell me all you can recall. Dora, can you name one?"

"Yes," replied Dora, "the grant for the permanent school fund."

"Can you name another, Tommy?"

"The grant for buildings at the Capital," said Tommy.

"Can you name one, Sam?"

"The grant for public institutions like the insane asylums, the penitentiary and the reform school," said Sam

"Then there is the grant for the normal schools," said Dora, "and another for scientific schools."

"And there is one for the agricultural college," added Sam.

"Is that all?" asked Mr. Grant.

"No," said Tommy, "there is one for the state university."

"Well," said Mr. Grant, "suppose after the selections had been made that some of the land belonging to the grant for capitol buildings should be sold, what would be done with the money?"

"It would be held by the Treasurer as a special fund until appropriated by the Legislature," answered Sam.

"That is right," said Mr. Grant. "Now, suppose some of the state school lands are sold, what becomes of the money?"

"It goes into the permanent school fund," answered Dora, "and cannot be used in any way except for investment."

"In case some of the land belonging to the capitol grant should be leased, what becomes of the money paid as rent?"

"That would go into the fund for the capitol buildings just the same as the money received from the sale of those lands," answered Sam.

"That is right," said Mr. Grant, "but suppose some of the school lands should be leased, what would be done with the money received as rent?"

"The school lands were given to make a permanent school fund," said Dora, "but if they are only rented, the money paid will go into the current school fund."

"You can see the reason for that," said Mr. Grant. "Money received as rent is really the same as money received as interest on the permanent school fund. Neither the grant nor the fund is reduced when the school lands are rented. I am sure you have a very good idea of these various grants and of what they mean. All this information which you are getting from night to night may be a little uninteresting to you at present, but you will find it will be a great deal of help to you some day. Now, Tommy, what are we to talk about to-night?"

"You finished the Commissioner of Public Lands last night. The next subject is Boards and Commissions," answered Tommy.

"Under what general department of the state government do we find the State Boards and Commissions?"

"The executive department," answered Dora.

"That is right," said Mr. Grant; "a great deal of the gen-

eral business of the state departments is transacted by the various State Boards and Commissions.

BOARD OF AUDIT AND CONTROL.

"Perhaps the most important is the State Board of Audit and Control. It is the most important because of the character of the interests committed to its charge.

"The State Board of Audit and Control consists of five members who are appointed by the Governor. Four members serve without compensation. The fifth member is called the Commissioner of Public Institutions, and has immediate charge and supervision of the institutions under the control of the board. The Governor of the state is a member of the board and is its chairman.

"To this board is committed the control of the insane asylums, the penitentiary, the reform school and the soldiers' home.

"There are two insane asylums in this state, one located at Medical Lake, in Spokane county, the other at Steilacoom, in Pierce county. These institutions are named, respectively, the Eastern Washington Hospital for the Insane, and the Western Washington Hospital for the Insane.

"It is considered wise that all insane people should be cared for by the state. There are several good reasons for this. The friends and relatives of an insane person might not be financially able to provide him with the treatment which he should receive. Then, where a great many insane people are gathered together in one institution, the very best medical skill can be secured and the very best means provided for their treatment. In a large percentage of cases, if people who are mentally afflicted can at once be given the best kind of care and medical treatment, they may be restored to a normal and sane condition. And so the

state has provided these two institutions, one in the eastern part of the state and one in the western part. There are several hundred patients in each of these institutions.

"As I have said, the control of these institutions is one of the duties of the Board of Audit and Control. The Commissioner of Public Institutions is the officer of the board whose duty it is to personally visit these institutions and see that all things needful are provided and that the laws of the state in respect to them are observed.

"When a person becomes insane, a sworn complaint is filed, very much as in criminal actions, and a warrant is issued for his arrest. He is then taken before the Superior Judge, who examines into the matter of his sanity.

"If, after hearing the evidence in the case, which usually includes the testimony of physicians, the Judge considers that the person is not so insane as to be unable to take proper care of himself and his property, he is released. If, on the other hand, it appears from the testimony that he is not in a condition mentally to take care of himself or his property, he is adjudged insane and ordered to be placed in one of the insane asylums of the state. There he will remain until the physicians in charge of the asylum are satisfied that it will be safe to release him. While he remains in the asylum, every means will be used, both as to medical treatment and careful nursing, for his restoration.

"The Board of Audit and Control appoints not only the superintendents of the Hospitals for the Insane, but also all other persons employed in those institutions. It purchases all supplies required and, as I have said, through the Commissioner of Public Institutions, sees that the laws of the state in relation to the care of insane persons are carried out.

"In like manner, the Board of Audit and Control has charge of the Penitentiary. This is an institution for the safe-keeping of those persons who have been convicted of felonies. The Penitentiary is located at Walla Walla in the county of Walla Walla. It is under the control of an officer known as the Warden. The Board of Audit and Control appoints the Warden and all subordinate officers of the Penitentiary. It also provides all needful supplies for the institution, and through the Commissioner of Public Institutions sees that the laws of the state in relation to the treatment of convicts are carried out.

"The Reform School is an institution for the care and reformation of children and very young people who have been guilty of crime, or are found to be incorrigable. The confinement of this class of offenders in the Penitentiary would be very likely to make them confirmed and hardened criminals, for the reason that they would there be brought into association with the worst kind of men and women; besides, the shame and disgrace of having been imprisoned in the penitentiary would make it very difficult for them to become honorable men and women. The people of the state have established this institution in the hope of reforming this class of offenders.

"In the Reform School the inmates are surrounded by the most wholesome influences possible. They are not only given a good common school education, but are instructed in some trade or line of work which will enable them to earn a living after they are discharged. The superintendent of the Reform School, and all officers of the school under him, are appointed by the Board of Audit and Control. As in the case of the other institutions I have named, the Board, through its general agent, the Commissioner of Public Institutions, is charged with the duty of providing everything necessary for the school.

"The soldiers' home is located at Orting, and is an institution established for the care of old soldiers who are without the means of support, and who, through age or physical infirmities, are unable to earn for themselves a living. The superintendent of the soldiers' home is called the Commandant, and is appointed by the Board of Audit and Control.

"It is the duty of the Commissioner of Public Institutions to visit all these institutions, audit their accounts, examine all their book and scrutinize their management. He also acts as secretary of the Board of Audit and Control. Every three months he is required to make a report to the board of his visits to the several institutions.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION.

"You remember, do you not, the duties the Board of County Commissioners are required to perform as a Board of Equalization? After the assessment of the property in the county has been completed and corrected by the County Board of Equalization, the result is certified to the State Auditor.

"When these reports are received from all the counties of the state, the State Board of Equalization convenes. It is made up of the State Auditor, the Secretary of State and the Commissioner of Public Lands. The Auditor is the president of the Board, and the Secretary of State is its secretary.

"It is the duty of the board to equalize the valuations of the same classes of property in the various counties in the state. In some counties the same class of property may be valued higher than in other counties. In such a case you can easily see that under a uniform tax levy the people of the counties in which the higher valuation prevailed would be required to pay more than their just share of the taxes.

"All property, real and personal, is classified for the purpose of assessment, and the basis of assessment is a certain assumed valuation for the whole class. For instance, take sewing machines—a County Assessor of one county may assess all sewing machines at fifteen dollars each; the Assessor of another county may assess them at twenty-five dollars, and so on. The same thing can be said with reference to the valuation placed upon land per acre in the respective counties.

"The work of the State Board of Equalization is to equalize the assessed valuation on all these classes of property, that the state tax will fall justly and in fair proportion upon each county in the state. If any single classification of real or personal property is lower in one county than in other counties the Board will raise the valuation of that class of property for that county. If any classification is higher than the valuation of the same kind of property in other counties it will lower it.

"After the Board has in this way corrected and equalized the valuations of the various classifications of property included in the report of the assessments of the various counties in the state, they will compute the total valuation of all the property in the state. An estimate is then made of the amount of money which will be required to cover the expense of maintaining the various departments of the state government for the next year.

"Having the amount of money which is necessary to be raised for state purposes, and the valuation of all the taxable property in the state, it is an easy matter to arrive at the amount of the levy to be made for each of the four general state funds. After this has been done, the work of the Board of Equalization is completed.

"The State Auditor then certifies to each of the County Auditors the amount expressed in mills which must be levied for each of the four general state funds. The levy, of course, will be the same in all the counties of the state. If one county has twice as much taxable property as another county, under the levy, which is the same in both counties, it will have to pay in dollars and cents twice as much into the state treasury.

BOARD OF FISH COMMISSIONERS.

"Another board which transacts a portion of the state business is the Board of Fish Commissioners. It is made up of the Governor, the State Treasurer and the Fish Commissioner.

"The Fish Commissioner is an officer appointed by the Governor to have charge of the fishing interests of the state. To prevent such misuse of the fishing privileges of the state as would be likely to result in the extermination of our fish numerous laws are enacted.

"The danger to the fishing interests does not come from those who catch fish for food, but from those who, by the use of large traps and other similar appliances, take vast quantities of fish during the season when they run, for the purpose of canning and preserving them for sale.

"The Fish Commissioner has charge of the enforcement of those laws which have been passed, placing restrictions upon the fishing privileges of the state.

"In order to prevent the wholesale destruction and speedy extermination of the fish that frequent our waters, only those who are licensed to do so are permitted to use traps, nets and similar appliances. The use of these means for taking fish is also so regulated as to make them less destructive. All these matters are under supervision and control of the Fish Commissioner.

"The fees paid to the state for licenses to operate traps, nets and similar appliances amount to a great deal of money every year. All these fees, under the law, go into the fish hatchery fund, which, you will remember, is a special fund. This fund can only be used for the construction and maintenance of fish hatcheries, and it is the duty of the Board of Fish Commissioners to locate and manage these hatcheries.

"With a view to preventing the extermination of the salmon, which frequent the waters of this state, hatcheries have been established at various points for the purpose of propagating small salmon. A great many salmon eggs are hatched in these hatcheries, and the tiny fish are tended and fed until they are large enough to look out for themselves, when they are set free in some stream of fresh water. During the season they work their way down to the salt water and most of them, we presume, ultimately grow to full size. Many millions of eggs can be hatched and small fry released in this manner in a single hatchery during the year.

STATE GRAIN COMMISSION.

"Another one of the boards which constitutes a part of the executive department of the state government is the State Grain Commission. This commission consists of three members, the Grain Commissioner and two others. All three members of the commission are appointed by the Governor.

"It is the duty of the State Grain Commission to establish regular grades in regard to weight and quality for the grain grown in this state. They say that certain grades of grain shall be known as 'number one,' certain other grades slightly inferior in quality as 'number two,' and so on.

"Grain is graded in this manner in order that in buying and

selling grain both parties to the transaction may be protected. When a man ships grain he is entitled to have it graded by one of the authorized agents of the State Grain Commission, and that grading will enable him to tell what his grain should be worth in the market. A person buying grain that has been graded by an agent of the State Grain Commission, feels secure in paying the market price for that grade of grain because of the certificate of the Grain Inspector.

"There are certain fees and fines collected in connection with the grading of grain, which go into the grain inspection fund, which you will remember is one of the special funds which the State Treasurer keeps. Money in this fund can be used only in payment of the expenses of the State Grain Commission.

LIBRARY COMMISSION.

"The Board of Library Commissioners consists of the Governor, Secretary of State and the Attorney-General. The State Library is located at the Capital, and consists in large part of a collection of law books and legal reports for the use of the Supreme Court and other state departments. In addition to these it contains many other books upon subjects of a scientific, historical and literary character. The State Library is in charge of the Librarian, who is appointed by the Governor.

"The Board of Library Commissioners is charged with the duty of establishing rules for the conduct of the Library, and the purchase of such books as may be required. A great many of the books in the State Library are received from other states in exchange for similar publications of this state. These include the Supreme Court reports and Session Laws of the various states of the Union.

"All the expenses of maintaining the State Library are paid

out of the library fund, which you will remember I told you is one of the four special funds the State Treasurer is required to keep. This fund is created by the payment of certain fees.

"Every person who desires to act as a Notary Public in this state is required to pay to the State Treasurer the sum of ten dollars. All these notary fees go into the library fund. A Notary Public is an officer who is appointed by the Governor to take acknowledgement, in writing, of deeds, mortgages and other instruments that under the law are required to be acknowledged. He is also authorized to administer oaths in connection with the making of affidavits.

"Any person desiring to act as a Commissioner of Deeds for the state of Washington in any other state must pay to the State Treasurer the sum of five dollars. These fees also go into the library fund. A Commissioner of Deeds for Washington in one of the other states acts as a Notary Public for this state, having power to take acknowledgement of written instruments and administer oaths in the making of affidavits.

"Both Notaries Public and Commissioners of Deeds are appointed for four years. At the end of their term of office they must be recommissioned and pay the fee again. The revenue obtained from this source is considerable, as there are a great many Notaries Public in the state.

"The money in the library fund cannot be used for any purpose except the purchase of books for the State Library and the payment of its general running expenses.

DAIRY COMMISSIONERS.

"The State Board of Dairy Commissioners consists of the Secretary of State, the President of the Agricultural College and the Dairy Commissioner. The Dairy Commissioner is appointed by the Governor of the state. The duties of the Board are to en-

force all the laws of the state regarding the production, manufacture and sale of dairy products, such as milk, butter, cheese, etc.

"The Dairy Commissioner is required to devote his entire time and attention to the dairy interests of the state of Washington, and to personally inspect any milk, butter, cheese, or imitations thereof, made or offered for sale in the state, which he may suspect or have reason to believe to be impure, unhealthful, adulterated or counterfeit.

"It is his duty to prosecute any person or firm that he may discover to be either making or selling any adulterated or counterfeit dairy products contrary to law. You know, there are imitations of butter and cheese which are not made from milk. The laws of this state permit these counterfeits to be sold, but prohibit their sale under the name of butter and cheese.

"It is also the Dairy Commissioner's duty to see that milk which is sold is not diluted with water, and to regularly inspect all the dairies in the state. This inspection of dairies is to guard against milk being sold that has been drawn from unhealthy stock; to see that dairy stock is not fed upon unwholesome food, and to enforce ordinary cleanliness in the care of the barns and stables in which dairy stock is kept.

"It is the duty of the Board of Dairy Commissioners, through its agent, the Dairy Commissioner, to see that the laws of the state are enforced against the sale of articles of food which have been adulterated. When acting in this capacity, the Commissioner is known as the Pure Food Commissioner.

BUREAU OF LABOR.

"The Bureau of Labor consists of the Labor Commissioner and the Inspector of Factories, Mills and Railroads. Both members of the bureau are appointed by the Governor. It is the duty of the

bureau to see that the laws of the state for the protection of laborers are enforced.

"The inspector makes regular tours of the state and is entitled to admission to all factories and mills and the offices of all companies employing labor. He can insist upon certain information and require employers of labor to make certain reports to the bureau. Based upon these reports and the results of the work of the Inspector, the Commissioner issues a biennial report concerning the condition and opportunities of labor in this state.

BOARD OF HEALTH.

"The Governor appoints five persons to act as the State Board of Health. The duties of the Board are to supervise the state system of registration of births and deaths, to see that the laws in relation to the registration of physicians are complied with, to gather and compile statistics as to births, deaths and marriages, and to take such steps as are necessary for the preservation and improvement of the public health.

"They have authority to make such rules and regulations as to sanitation and quarantine as in their judgment are necessary to prevent the spread of any contagious or infectious disease, and it becomes the duty of all police officers, sheriffs and constables to enforce these rules and regulations.

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS.

"The State Board of Medical Examiners consists of nine members, who are appointed by the Governor. The law requires that members of this Board shall be learned and skilled in the theory and practice of medicine and surgery.

"It is the duty of the Board to examine all applicants for license to practice medicine and surgery within the state. If

the applicant shall convince the Board of his fitness to practice medicine and surgery the Board will grant him a license.

"The Board has the power to revoke a license which they have granted when the person holding it has been guilty of unprofessional or dishonorable conduct. Before such revocation can be made, however, the accused person is entitled to a hearing before the Board and given an opportunity to defend himself against the charges filed.

"The laws of the state do not permit the practice of medicine or surgery by any person who does not hold a license from the State Board of Medical Examiners.

BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS.

"The Board of Dental Examiners consists of five members, all of whom must be practicing dentists. The members of the board are appointed by the Governor. It is their duty to see that the laws of the state relating to the practice of dentistry are complied with. No person is permitted to practice dentistry in this state until he has first been examined by the Board of Dental Examiners, and received from them a certificate of his fitness. The certificate granted by the Board must be filed with the County Auditor of the county in which the person desires to practice his profession.

BOARD OF PHARMACY.

"The State Board of Pharmacy consists of five members, who are appointed by the Governor. In making these appointments the Governor must choose from a certain number of practicing druggists who have been named by the Washington State Pharmaceutical Association.

"It is the duty of the Board to examine all applicants for registration as licensed druggists, and, upon being satisfied with

the general qualifications of the applicant, to issue a certificate of registration. Thereafter the person who holds the certificate is known as a registered pharmacist, and is entitled to practice his profession, that is, dispense drugs and medicines within the state. It is the duty of the Board to see that all the laws of the state relating to the sale of drugs and medicines are enforced.

CAPITOL COMMISSION.

"The State Capitol Commission consists of five members, and is composed of the Governor, the State Auditor, and three other persons who are appointed by the Governor. The Board is created for the purpose of having charge of the construction of the state capitol building at Olympia.

"You will remember that I spoke of a grant of land made by the general government to the state for public buildings at the state capital. The duties of the Capitol Commission relate to the adoption of plans for the capitol building, and the general supervision of its construction.

COAL MINE INSPECTORS.

"For the purpose of enforcing the laws of the state for the protection of men engaged in mining coal, the Governor appoints an Inspector for each coal mine district. The state is divided for this purpose into districts, each one of which shall contain not less than ten nor more than sixty coal mines.

"The duties of Coal Mine Inspectors are very important, for if the requirements of the laws of the state relating to the safeguards to be provided against explosions of gas, and other dangers incident to the mining of coal, are not enforced, the lives of all persons engaged in the mines are in constant danger. We frequently read of great loss of life resulting from gas explosions where the necessary precautions have not been taken.

BOARD OF COAL MINE EXAMINERS.

"In the appointment of Coal Mine Inspectors the Governor acts upon the recommendation of the Board of Coal Mine Examiners. This Board, which is appointed by the Governor, examines the applicants for appointment as Inspectors, and certifies to the Governor as to the qualifications of each.

COMMISSIONER OF HORTICULTURE.

"Another officer who is appointed by the Governor may be discussed in connection with boards and commissions. He is called the Commissioner of Horticulture, and is appointed by the Governor. He is required to exercise a general supervision over the horticultural industries of the state, and to enforce the laws relative to the importation and sale of fruit trees and nursery stock within the state.

"It is his duty to give information to fruit growers regarding the best methods of cultivation, and the extermination of fruit pests. He is authorized to appoint deputies in the several counties of the state One of the chief duties of the Commissioner and his deputies is to prevent the importation and sale of infected fruit trees. He also has the power to take such steps as are necessary to prevent the spread of tree diseases that are contagious."

SUMMARY.

Board Audit and Control. Commissioner Public Institutions. Insane asylums. Penitentiary. Reform school. Soldiers' home. Board Equalization. Board of Fish Commissioners. State Grain Commission. Library Commission. Dairy Commission. Bureau of Labor. Board of Health. Board of Medical Examiners. Board of Dental Examiners. Board of Pharmacy. Capitol Commission. Coal Mine Inspectors. Board Coal Mine Examiners. Commissioner of Horticulture.

CHAPTER XIII.

Monday Evening's Talk.

Monday evening found the Grant family assembled as usual about the open fire.

"Tommy," asked Mr. Grant, "what did we talk about last Saturday evening?"

"Boards and Commissions," answered Tommy.

"There are so many State Boards and Commissions that I hardly think you will be able to remember them all, and it might be well to go over them briefly and see how many you can recall. Dora, suppose you begin and name as many as you can."

"The first one," answered Dora, "has charge of the penitentiary, the insane asylums, the soldiers' home, and the reform school, but I have forgotten the name of it."

"That is the Board of Audit and Control," said her father.

"Then there was a Board of Fish Commissioners," continued Dora, "and a Board that examines doctors."

"You mean the Board of Medical Examiners," said her father.

"Yes," said Dora, "and a Board of Dental Examiners, and a Board that examines druggists."

"The Board of Pharmacy," added her father.

"There is a Board of Equalization," said Sam, "and a board that grades grain."

"The State Grain Commission," said Mr. Grant.

"The Bureau of Labor was another," said Sam, "and there is also the Board of Health."

"Tommy," asked Mr. Grant, "do you remember any that Dora and Sam have not named?"

"The board that has charge of the State Library," said Tommy.

"That is called the Library Commission," said Mr. Grant.

"And then there is the board that is to build the Capitol."

"That is the Capitol Commission," said Mr. Grant; "now, are there any others?"

"The children thought a moment, but found they could remember no other boards or commissions, that had been discussed.

"I told you about the Board of Coal Mine Examiners, and something in reference to Coal Mine Inspectors, and about the Commissioner of Horticulture. With these exceptions, I believe you have given all the state boards and commissions that were discussed. The work of these boards is very important to the state at large. and a great part of the general business of the state is in their hands. What subject are we to discuss to-night?"

"We have finished the executive department of the state government," said Dora. "The next department is the judicial."

"We had a department of the county government which corresponded with the judicial department. Do you remember what it was?"

"The court department," answered Tommy.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT.

"The first subject under the judicial department of the state government, according to our diagram, is the Justices of the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court consists of five judges who, in hearing cases brought before them, sit together. The five judges of the Supreme Court choose one of their number to act as Chief Justice. The other judges are called Associate Justices.

"The Supreme Court of the state of Washington has appellate jurisdiction, that is, its work relates almost entirely to the consideration of cases that are brought before it on appeal from the Superior Court. It is sometimes called the court of last resort, in that its decision on any matter brought before it on appeal is final.

"When a case is tried in the Superior Court and decided in favor of one of the parties to the action, the party against whom it has been decided may, if he is dissatisfied with the decision, have the case referred to the Supreme Court for review. This is called appealing the case to the Supreme Court.

"The Supreme Court does not hear any evidence in relation to the cases brought before it, but deals generally with only the question of law involved.

"When a party against whom a case has been decided in the Superior Court desires to take an appeal to the Supreme Court, his attorney makes out a statement of the facts in the case and presents it to the attorney on the other side for acceptance. This statement of facts consists of the evidence which was introduced in the case, together with the judge's

charge to the jury. If the statement of facts as prepared is correct, the attorney on the other side will agree to the same. The Superior Judge certifies to the statement, and from that time it is accepted as representing the facts in the case.

"After the statement of facts has been settled, the Clerk of the Superior Court prepares a transcript of the case, which consists of a full record of all the proceedings had in relation to the matter in the Superior Court. It includes the pleadings, and other papers filed in the case, the proceedings had upon trial, any motions that may have been made, and the orders of the Superior Judge which have been entered, together with the final judgment rendered.

"The attorneys on both sides will then prepare their briefs. A brief is an argument as to the points of law raised, based upon the facts as they are set forth in the statement of facts. These briefs must be printed, and a certain number of printed copies filed with the Clerk of the Court.

"That officer then transmits the statement of facts and the transcript of the case, together with the printed copies of the briefs of the attorneys to the Clerk of the Supreme Court. The case is thereupon docketed in the Supreme Court.

"The Supreme Court holds during each year three regular sessions, at which the cases on its docket are heard. When a case which has been appealed is reached on the docket, the attorneys on both sides may present, in addition to the printed briefs, oral arguments in favor of the positions for which they contend.

"After the case has been argued, the Judges of the Supreme Court proceed to hear all the other cases on the docket. The intervals between the open sessions of the Supreme Court are

used by the members of the Court in considering the cases presented. When they finally decide a case, it is referred to one of their number to write an opinion which will express the decision they have reached, and embody their reasons therefor.

"When a case has been decided by the Supreme Court, the Clerk of the Supreme Court certifies to the Clerk of the Superior Court of the county in which the case was originally tried the opinion rendered by the Supreme Court.

"The more common grounds upon which appeals are taken from the decisions of the Superior Court are: First, errors made in the Judge's charge to the jury; second, errors made in the admission or rejection of testimony; third, the evidence being insufficient to support the verdict and judgment rendered.

"In the first two cases the questions which the Supreme Court have to decide are purely questions of law. In the third case it becomes the duty of the Court to examine the testimony in the case and decide whether it is sufficient to justify the verdict and judgment rendered in the Superior Court.

"As you have seen, either the plaintiff or the defendant may appeal to the Supreme Court from the decision of a case in the Superior Court. The party appealing, be he plaintiff or defendant in the action, is called the appellant; the other party is called the respondent.

"In deciding a case heard on appeal, the Supreme Court either affirms, reverses, or modifies the judgment of the Superior Court. If the respondent is successful and the judgment is affirmed, the case is finally settled and the appellant must accept the judgment as it stands. If the appellant is successful and the judgment of the Superior Court is set aside on the ground of error in the judge's charge or in respect to evidence

admitted or rejected, the case must be tried over in the lower court.

"If the Supreme Court goes farther than that, as it does in some cases, and reverses the judgment, it operates as a final settlement of the case in favor of the appellant. Sometimes the Supreme Court will modify the judgment rendered, in which event the lower court enters judgment accordingly.

The Judges of the Supreme Court appoint their own clerk and bailiff and have general control of the business of their department. They appoint also an officer, who is known as the Supreme Court Reporter. It is the duty of the Supreme Court Reporter to collect and prepare for publication the written decisions of the Supreme Court. In addition to the opinion itself, he must prepare a brief statement of the facts in the case, as set forth in the statement of facts and transcript of record, in order that the reasons for the decision, set forth in the opinion, may be intelligible. In addition to this, he prepares what is called the syllabus of the case, which is printed at the head of the decision. This consists of a very brief synopsis of the questions of law decided by the court in that case.

"These decisions are collected and printed in books of convenient size called the Supreme Court Reports of the State of Washington.

"The Supreme Court, in construing a statute of the state, or in deciding a question of general law which is in dispute in that particular case, establishes a rule which is usually thereafter accepted. Hence it is that the decisions of the Supreme Court come to be a part of the system of laws under which we live.

"One of the most important duties of the Supreme Court is the matter of passing upon the constitutionality of laws enacted

by the Legislature. As I have explained to you, all laws enacted by the legislative department of this state must conform to the constitution of the state. If a law is decided by the Supreme Court to be unconstitutional, it is thereafter held to be inoperative and void.

"Another important function of the Supreme Court is what is called the construction of laws passed by the Legislature. Sometimes a law enacted by the Legislature is not as clear as it might be in its terms and provisions. And again, it may conflict with some other law of the state previously enacted. In these cases it is the duty of the Supreme Court to say what, in its opinion, was the intent of the Legislature, and how far the new act repeals and supersedes the old one.

ATTORNEY GENERAL.

"The next officer, according to our diagram, in the judicial department of the state government, is the Attorney General. It is his duty to consult with and advise the Governor and all other state officers on matters of law, and to give them, when they request it, his written opinion relating to the questions raised. Few, if any, of the state officers are lawyers, and, inasmuch as the performance of their official duties constantly calls for an interpretation of the laws they are required to execute, it is very important that they should be provided with the advice of one who is competent to judge of such matters.

"When a state officer is in doubt as to what his duty is under the law in any particular case, he can refer the matter to the Attorney-General and receive from him his written opinion and advice.

"The Attorney-General is required to prepare for the various departments of the state government proper drafts for contracts or other writings relating to subjects in which the

state is interested. Whenever either branch of the Legislature or any of their committees may so request, the Attorney-General will render a written opinion upon any constitutional or legal question.

"Being the chief law officer of the state, he is required to advise the Prosecuting Attorneys of the several counties of the state, and, when they so request, give them his written opinion as to any legal question arising in the discharge of the duties of their office. He must keep in his office a book in which all the official opinions which he renders are recorded.

"In all criminal cases that are appealed to the Supreme Court, the Attorney-General appears for the state. He has full charge of such cases, and can supplement and even set aside the briefs furnished by the Prosecuting Attorneys. In all civil cases to which the state is party, the Attorney-General, upon both trial and appeal, represents the state.

"Under the constitution, the Legislature is required to fix the place where civil actions can be brought against the state. Under the law as it now stands, all civil actions against the state must be brought in Thurston county. The reason for this is that Olympia, which is the capital of the state, is situated in Thurston county, and it is important that actions of this class should be brought in a county not remote from the state records and offices.

"Whenever the Governor so requires, the Attorney-General must assist the Prosecuting Attorney of any county in the trial of a criminal case before the Superior Court. When he deems it advisable, he may take charge of the prosecution of criminal cases in the Superior Court.

"In all actions brought for or against state officers, the Attorney-General represents the officer in interest."

SUMMARY.

Supreme Court. Appeals. Statement of facts. Transcript of record. Briefs. Grounds of appeal. Appellant. Respondent. Judgment. Supreme Court Reporter. Supreme Court Reports. Attorney General and his duties.

CHAPTER XIV.

Tuesday Evening's Talk.

"We are approaching the end of our discussion," said Mr. Grant, as the family group settled itself for the evening's talk, "and I suppose you children are not sorry."

"Why, papa," said Dora, "we have had a splendid time since you began talking about government."

"I am sure I have enjoyed it," said Mrs. Grant, "and I believe the children have, or they would not have been so quiet evening after evening. It has been a real rest to me to have them so still during the whole evening."

"It has been great fun," said Tommy, "and I don't see why you want to stop."

"It has been no small task for me, however," said Mr. Grant, "for I have never had the opportunity to learn about these matters, and I have had to do a great deal of reading to keep up with the subjects we have discussed. We have come to the last general division of the state government according to our diagram. What are we to talk about to-night?"

"The educational department," answered Dora.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

"Did we have a similar department in the county government?" asked Mr. Grant.

"Yes," said Tommy, "the school department."

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

"From what I have said in discussing the school department of the county government," continued Mr. Grant, "you got some idea of our system of public schools throughout the state. You learned that while the people of a school district, in a way, control their own school affairs, the public schools throughout the state are under the supervision of certain officers. In the county this supervision is exercised by the County Superintendent. The Superintendent of Public Instruction is the state officer whose duty it is to see that the laws of the state in relation to public schools are enforced.

"I have explained to you why all the people are interested in having the children of the state receive such an education as will fit them to become good citizens.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction being at the head of the public school system of the state has an opportunity of observing wherein the system may be enlarged and improved. It is his duty to make such a careful study of the system as will enable him to recommend needed legislation.

"Every two years he calls a convention of County Superintendents. At this convention all questions relating to the enlargement and improvement of the public school system are discussed, and, as the County Superintendents are well informed as to the needs of the various localities of the state, the conclusions reached as to proposed legislation are very likely to be wise.

"It is the duty of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to visit the schools throughout the state as far as his time will permit.

"I told you how teachers, who desire to secure a certificate,

are required to pass a written examination. The questions for these examinations are prepared by the State Board of Education and sent by the Superintendent of Public Instruction to the County Superintendents. The written answers to the questions are returned to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and by him examined and marked.

"If the applicant has passed a satisfactory examination, a certificate is granted and issued by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. There are three grades of certificates granted: First, Second and Third. The examinations are held quarterly.

"It is the duty of the Superintendent of Public Instruction every three months to apportion the money in the current school fund among the various counties of the state. In doing this, he computes from the annual reports of the County Superintendents the whole number of days of school attendance in the state for the preceding year.

"He then divides the amount of money on hand by the whole number of days' attendance for the preceding year. This gives him a certain number of cents for each day's attendance. He then multiplies the total number of days' attendance in each county for the preceding year by that amount. The result is the amount of money which each county is entitled to receive under that quarterly apportionment.

"These amounts are then certified to the State Treasurer, who transmits the money to the various County Treasurers.

"The County Superintendent adds to this sum the amount in the county treasury to the credit of the county school fund, and apportions the total amount to the various school districts of his county.

"It is the duty of the Superintendent of Public Instruction

each year to certify to the State Board of Equalization the total number of children of school age in the state, according to the school census of the preceding year.

"The law makes it the duty of the Board of Equalization to fix its levy for the current school fund on the basis of eight dollars for each child of school age within the state, as shown by this report.

"As far as his time will permit, the Superintendent of Public Instruction attends the teachers' institutes held in the several counties.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

"The Board of Education is made up of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and four others, appointed by the Governor, the Superintendent acting as president.

"I have told you that one duty of the Board of Education is the preparation of a list of questions for the quarterly examination of teachers. They have the power to prescribe rules and regulations for the general welfare of the public schools. They are authorized, also, to fix the course of study which must be pursued in the different grades of the public schools of the state, and to decide what school books shall be used.

"Another very important duty of the Board of Education is the granting of state certificates and life diplomas. These are granted upon examinations held by the State Board, or upon papers from other states. A state certificate is good for five years, and is of a higher grade than a first grade certificate. A life diploma is good during the life of the holder, and is the highest grade paper issued.

HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

"Besides the system of public schools, the state has established and maintains a number of institutions of higher education. There are three Normal Schools, one situated at Whatcom, in Whatcom county, another at Ellensburg in Kittitas county, and another at Cheney in Spokane county.

"These Normal Schools are established for the purpose of affording those who wish to become teachers the opportunity to prepare themselves for that work. While general subjects are taught in the Normal Schools, special attention is paid to those branches which are calculated to develop the pupils into successful teachers.

"The Agricultural College and School of Science is situated at Pullman, in Whitman county. In this school, besides the general branches taught in institutions of higher education, special attention is paid to those subjects which stand related to successful farming. Subjects of a scientific character are also given prominence.

"The School for Defective Youth is located at Vancouver, in Clarke county. It is established for the purpose of affording educational opportunities for the children of this state who are so unfortunate as to be either blind or deaf. Another feature of this school is the training of feeble-minded children.

"The State University is located at Seattle, and, although it is comparatively young, it has come to be recognized as one of the very best institutions of its kind in the northwest. All these institutions being maintained by the state, the cost of attending them is very slight, and there is no reason why any boy or girl living in this state who desires a good education should not obtain it.

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AND SCHOOL OF SCIENCE

"These institutions of higher education are managed by Boards, the members of which are appointed by the Governor.

"With the beginning which our state has made in the matter of educational institutions, and with the generous grants which the general government has provided for their maintenance and enlargement, the time should not be far distant when the State of Washington will be second to no other state in the Union in the educational opportunities which it affords.

"When the time comes I shall expect to send each of you to one of these institutions of higher education. The choice of the institution will depend very largely upon what you want to become. I wonder if you have given any thought to the question as to what you will do when you grow up."

"I would like to be a teacher," said Dora.

"In that event," said her father, "having completed the course of study taught in the public schools you should attend one of the Normal Schools. What do you intend to be, Sam?"

"I want to be a farmer," said Sam, "and raise stock."

"In that case," said his father, "the Agricultural College will be the place for you. There you would have opportunity to receive a thorough college education, and, in addition, such special training as would be of the greatest value to you in that line of business.

"Now, Tommy, have you any idea as to what you would like to do when you grow up?"

Tommy squirmed in his chair, and got very red in the face, as he was wont to do when asked embarrassing questions.

"You know," said Mrs. Grant, "that I think Tommy ought to take up some line of art. It is really remarkable the way

the boy can draw. Only yesterday I found on my moulding board a charcoal sketch of Sam that was remarkably good. Of course, I don't just like his using my moulding board for that purpose, but I could not help complimenting him upon the truthfulness of the sketch. I think Tommy ought to go to the State University when he gets old enough."

CITY GOVERNMENT.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.

"Before I finish the subject of the Government of the State of Washington I ought to say something about municipal corporations. The other evening in connection with Dora's question about corporations you learned there is a difference between general corporations and municipal corporations.

"When a considerable number of people live together in a town or city you can easily understand that it becomes necessary to establish some rules to govern the community. As in the case of the larger community which we call the state, the people of these smaller communities have some common interests which can be managed best by combined action. For this reason the laws of the state permit the organization of local governments for cities and towns.

CITIES OF THE FIRST CLASS.

"Large cities, known as cities of the first class, are entitled under the law of this state to frame and adopt, by the vote of the people, a city Charter. It contains an outline of the city's government, provides for the election of certain officers, and defines their duties. In cities of this class the city government is usually not unlike the state government. There is a legisla-

tive department, an executive department, and a judicial department. The legislative department consists of the City Council. The city is divided into wards, and members of the City Council are elected from each ward. Within the limitations of the city Charter the City Council may enact laws for the government of the city. These city laws are called ordinances, and they are passed in very much the same way that laws are passed by the state Legislature.

"In adopting city ordinances the city Council must be careful to act within the provisions of the city Charter and the constitution and laws of the state of Washington.

"The veto power in respect to the enactment of city ordinances is given to the Mayor, who is the chief executive officer of the city. In the Executive department there is a City Treasurer, who keeps the city's moneys, a City Comptroller who keeps the city's accounts, and a City Clerk who keeps the city's records. The Mayor is the head of the Executive department of the city government, and appoints officers who shall be chief in the management of the various departments of the city's business. He appoints one officer to have charge of the Police department, who is known as the Chief of Police, another who has charge of the Fire department, and so on.

"The judicial department of the city government consists of the Corporation Counsel and the Police Judge. The Police Judge has a right to hear, try and determine cases that involve the violation of the city ordinances. He usually acts as a committing magistrate, and has power to examine persons accused of crime, and to bind them over to await the action of the Grand Jury. The Police Judge has no civil jurisdiction, that is, he is not entitled to hear cases of a civil character.

"The Corporation Counsel is the law officer of the city government and performs for the city the same duties that devolve upon the Prosecuting Attorney in the county government.

"Cities of this class have their regular educational department, which consists of a City Board of Education and a City Superintendent. These officers are charged with the care and supervision of the schools of the city.

CITIES OF THE SECOND AND THIRD CLASS.

"In cities and towns having less than twenty thousand population, the form of municipal government is slightly different. No charter is adopted by the people, but the organization of the local government is made to conform with the general laws of the state in relation to the creation of this class of municipal corporations. In these cities and towns there are the same three general departments of government, the legislative, the executive, and the judicial.

"The legislative department consists of a Council, made up of members chosen from the various wards of the municipality The Council has the power, within the limitations prescribed by the laws of the state, to pass local laws which are known as ordinances. The Mayor exercises the veto power and stands at the head of the executive department.

"There is a Treasurer who keeps and disburses the money of the municipality, and a Clerk who keeps both the records and the accounts. As in cities of the first class, heads of the various executive departments are appointed; there being one person who has control of the police department, another who has control of the fire department, if there be one, and so on.

"The judicial department consists of a City Attorney and a Police Judge. Where no Police Judge is provided for, a Jus-

tice of the Peace is sometimes chosen to act for the city in that capacity.

"From what I have said of municipal corporations, you will see how the principle of local government is carried down to the smallest community where organized government is desirable. This is not only in accordance with the American idea, but by placing the responsibility of self government upon local communities, it develops a keen interest among the people in the economical and efficient administration of their local affairs."

SUMMARY.

Superintendent of Public Instruction and his duties. Method of apportionment of current school fund. Board of Education. Normal schools. Agricultural college and school of science. School for defective youth. State university. Municipal government. Cities of the first class. Cities of the second and third class.

CHAPTER XV.

Monday Evening's Talk.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

"With what I said last night," began Mr. Grant, "I finished the general subject of the government of the State of Washington. There are many things which I left unsaid, but I believe I have accomplished what I undertook—the giving of an outline of the government of our state that will enable you to understand what you read in the newspapers about the administration of public affairs. I hope that what you have heard about the subject will serve to so interest you in the matter that as you grow older you may desire to learn more about the forms of government under which you live.

"Should this prove to be true with time and the opportunities which will come to you of learning more about the subject, you will become good citizens, capable of honorably discharging your duty to yourselves and the public.

"When you have advanced somewhat further in your school course, you will study the subject of civil government and learn something of the philosophy of government, and particularly of our government, as the phrase is used in its larger sense.

"When we speak of the government we refer to the government of the United States. As I have already explained to you, this includes the governments of the various states and

of their many subdivisions. The government of the United States is sometimes called the general government and sometimes the federal government.

"You have seen what the Constitution of the state stands for and the reason of its adoption. There are some things in which all the people of the state are interested, which they can more easily bring about by acting together. For the purpose of accomplishing these ends, they unite in forming a state government and adopting a state constitution.

"In like manner there are some things in which all the people of all the states are interested and which they can bring about more easily by acting together. For the purpose of accomplishing these ends, the various states united in forming the United States government, and adopting the federal constitution.

"It is not my intention to deal at large with the subject of the United States government, for you will have an opportunity to carefully study that when you reach the subject of civil government in your school course. But, having discussed the subject of our state government, I desire to show you how our state stands related to the general government of the United States.

"Inasmuch as the states are agreed as to the desirability of maintaining free institutions, and the form of popular government which is common to them all, they soon perceived not only the importance but the necessity of combining in some way for their mutnal protection against foreign foes, and for the provision of some means of peacefully and fairly settling disagreements among themselves. Having seen this, they finally decided that the best method would be to create the United

States government, which, in respect to their relations to foreign countries, could act for them all, and, in relation to matters of disagreement among the several states, could compel a fair settlement.

"There is another matter for which the creation of the United States government provides. While the states themselves very rarely disagree in a way that calls for adjustment by the United States government, citizens of different states very frequently become involved in controversies that call for settlement. Naturally no state has a right to force a citizen of another state to do anything, but the United States government, created in part for this purpose, can make a citizen of any state having a disagreement with a citizen of another state do what the laws of the land require as being just and fair.

"In regulating the relations of all the states with foreign powers, it sometimes becomes necessary to employ force, and so in the gift of power by the several states to the United States government it was given authority to create and maintain an army and a navy. The army may be used also for enforcing obedience to federal laws throughout the states.

"The constitution also gives the United States government the power of settling questions of difference between the states and the citizens of different states, and for that purpose provides for a system of federal courts.

"Naturally with the gift of power to do these things goes the power to raise by taxation a revenue sufficient to meet the expenses of maintaining the government. Other matters of common interest to all of the people of all of the states are committed by the constitution to the care and control of the general government. One is the management and disposition of public

lands; another the control of the issue of money to be used throughout the United States; and another the establishment and control of our postal system.

"The federal constitution gives merely an outline of the government of the United States, the completion and perfection of the plan being left to the United States congress.

"Under the constitution the federal government is divided into three general departments: Legislative, executive, and judicial.

"The legislative department consists of the Congress of the United States, made up of two houses, known as the House of Representatives and the Senate. The constitution of the United States stands in the same relation to the law-making power of the United States government as the state constitution occupies in relation to the law-making power of the state.

"The veto power, which in the state is exercised by the Governor, is given to the President of the United States, who is the chief executive officer of the United States government.

"Members of the House of Representatives are elected by the people of the several states. Each state is so divided into congressional districts that a representative is allowed for a certain number of citizens. In thickly settled localities a congressional district will be smaller than in localities where the population is less dense.

"Members of the Senate are elected by the Legislatures of the several states, each state being entitled to two members.

"The President of the United States is elected by the voters of all the states. At the same time the President is elected a Vice-President is chosen. The duties of the Vice-President are to act as President of the Senate, and in the event of the death

of the President of the United States, to fill that office for the remainder of the presidential term. These two are the only officers in either the executive or the judicial departments who are elected by the people. All other executive and judicial officers are appointed by the President, his appointments, however, being subject to the approval of the Senate

"The general executive officers who, with the President, perform the duties of the executive department of the United States government are the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, the Attorney General, the Secretary of the Interior, the Postmaster General, and the Secretary of Agriculture.

"These heads of the general divisions of the executive department, taken together, are called the President's Cabinet. All executive officers who are appointed by the President serve for a term of four years.

"The judicial department of the United States government, like that of the state, has two general divisions: the courts of original jurisdiction, and the Supreme Court, which has appellate and final jurisdiction. The United States is divided into a number of judicial districts, and for each district a United States Judge is appointed. These judges hear, try and determine cases, both civil and criminal, which arise under the federal laws; that is, laws passed by Congress. They also hear, try and determine cases arising between citizens of different states where no federal law is involved.

"The Supreme Court of the United States, like the Supreme Court of the state, considers those questions which are brought before it on appeal from the federal courts of original jurisdiction.

"The Attorney General is a member of the President's Cabinet, but his duties connect him with the judicial rather than the executive department of the government. He stands in the same general relation to the United States government that the Attorney General of Washington occupies to our state government. Under him there are a number of United States district attorneys who represent the interests of the government in the various judicial districts of the federal courts.

"The several states, as such, do not contribute anything to the support of the United States government in the way that counties contribute to the support of the state government. The Congress of the United States, by the enactment of laws for that purpose, provides the revenue needed by the United States government. This is done in a number of ways. A large part of the revenue of the United States government is derived from a payment of duties imposed upon goods shipped into the United States from other countries. To collect these duties, and to see that the laws of the United States government are enforced in respect to goods shipped into this country, custom houses are established at all ports along our border lines where goods are usually brought into the country.

"The United States custom house in this state is situated at Port Townsend, though there are a number of sub-offices at other coast points and along the border line between our state and British Columbia.

"Another important element of the revenue of the general government is a tax laid upon liquors and cigars manufactured in this country, and the fees received for licenses from persons who desire to sell these articles. There are a great many other sources of revenue for the United States government provided

by Congress. but I am not undertaking a full discussion of this subject.

"I have told you that one of the common interests of all the states, which has been committed to the United States government, is the management and disposition of public lands. When the United States government was created, there were but thirteen states. Since then, a very large portion of this country has been acquired by purchase or treaty. These acquisitions were divided into sections convenient for local government, and called territories. As the population of these territories became sufficient, they were admitted into the Union. All the lands of these newly acquired territories belonged to the people of the United States, and when a territory became a state and was admitted into the Union, its public lands, that is, lands that were not privately owned, were retained by the United States government.

"With a view to settling these new territories and at the same time providing homes for the citizens of our country, the United States government gives one hundred and sixty acres to any man who will make it his home for five years. This is called taking up a homestead. A man may not exercise his homestead right more than once. Besides maintaining his residence for five years, he must make certain improvements upon the land and pay certain fees before he can obtain title to the land from the United States government. There are also other means by which citizens of the United States may obtain public lands from the government.

"I ought, perhaps, to call attention to an exception to the general rule that the land in the newly acquired territory, not privately owned, became the property of the United States government. The state of Texas, which was formerly a part

of Mexico, seperated itself from that government and declared its independence. Subsequently it asked for admission into the Union as a state. Naturally, being already a sovereign state, its right to own and control its public lands was recognized, and the United States got no interest or title to those lands when Texas was admitted as a state.

"At various points throughout the country, where there are still unsold government lands, the United States government maintains land offices through which its business in relation to these lands is transacted.

"Wherever there is a post office, you can see the United States government at work collecting, transferring, and delivering the mail matter of the people.

"There are a great many other things that the United States government does for the people, which I will not undertake to tell you about, but which, as you grow older, you will become familiar with.

"To-morrow evening I will bring our series of talks to a close and undertake to tell you something of the election system of this state. All these matters of government which we have been discussing are interesting in themselves and should be understood by every citizen, but the knowledge will be of no service to him if he does not know when and how, by the casting of his individual vote, to express his preference in the selection of men to make and enforce the laws."

SUMMARY.

Federal government. Federal constitution. Legislative department. Executive department. Judicial department. Sources of federal revenue. Public lands. Postal system.

CHAPTER XVI.

Tuesday Evening's Talk.

HOW WE VOTE.

"Now, children," said Mr. Grant, "for our concluding talk I want to go back to the subject with which we began. This whole discussion arose from Tommy's curiosity as to the meaning of the election which he saw going on when he was in town. He did not understand what it meant, and I have tried in these evening talks to show 'why we vote.' There is another subject, however, that stands closely related. It is not enough to know 'why we vote;' we should also know *how we vote.* This raises the question of the manner of holding elections, and the action of political parties that leads up to the preparation of the tickets from which we choose in voting.

"All the offices which I have spoken of as elective are filled by the choice of the people. When a man goes to the polls to vote for persons to fill these offices he finds a printed ballot already prepared for him. On this ballot are printed two or more tickets. A ticket is a list of the names of the candidates for the offices to be filled which represents the choice of a political party. There are sometimes exceptions to this rule, when the names of independent candidates appear upon the ballot.

"There are a number of recognized political parties in this country. Among them are the Democratic party, the Republi-

can party, the People's party, the Prohibition party, the Socialist Labor party, the Social Democracy party, etc.

"Each one of these political parties represents some clearly defined and well recognized policy of government. I don't know that it would be well for me at this time to undertake to tell you wherein and how they differ from each other. They are thoroughly organized, and have their national, state, and county central committees.

"When a general election is to be held, each party that desires to be represented on the official ballot will call a county convention. The people in each precinct in the county who believe in the principles of a certain party will hold primary meetings for the purpose of electing delegates to the county convention of their party. The county convention will then choose delegates to represent that county in the state convention of that party.

"In the state convention, the question of who shall be named as candidates for state officers is considered. The persons chosen by this convention are said to be nominated by that convention, and are called the candidates of that party. The result of the convention's action is then certified to the Secretary of State. Following the holding of these conventions for the nomination of state officers, a second set of county conventions are held for the nomination of candidates for the county offices. In these county conventions the question is considered as to whom the party desires to name as its candidates for the various county offices. Having determined this question, the action of the county convention is certified to the County Auditor.

"All of the political parties desiring to be represented on the official ballot, having held their state and county conven-

tions, and the Secretary of State having certified to the various County Auditors the nominations of the various political parties for state officers, the County Auditor proceeds to prepare the official ballot. He places at the head of the ballot the name of each political party making a full set of nominations. If the voter wishes to vote for all of the candidates named by one political party, he can do so by making a cross opposite the name of that party at the head of the ticket. Under these headings are printed the names of all the candidates for each of the state and county offices. Opposite the name of each candidate is placed the name of the party nominating him.

"In the event of a voter desiring to vote for some of the candidates named by one party and some candidates of another party, he will not make a cross at the head of the ticket, but will place a cross against the name of each candidate for whom he desires to vote.

"You will see from what I have said that in voting for some one to fill a certain office, I do not have a very wide range of choice.

"The question of whom I shall vote for has been largely determined by the conventions of the various political parties.

"If but two political parties held conventions and certified to the proper officers their party nominations, then in voting for some one to fill an office I have only two men to choose from. I may not entirely approve of either of these men as a candidate for the office for which he is named, but I must, however, vote for one or the other of them.

If, however, I have not done my duty as a citizen by participating in the primaries and conventions of the party in whose principles I believe, with the view of having candidates

named whom I consider worthy to fill the offices for which they are nominated, I have no right to complain.

"If you have carefully followed the discussion of our county and state government, you will readily see that good government can only be insured by electing good men to administer public affairs.

"It is true if the laws of the state are bad, even good men cannot give us good government; but every two years we elect members of the Legislature, and the opportunity is afforded of amending or repealing laws that do not work in the interest of the people; hence you will see that any man who desires the best things in the way of county and state government should take an active part in the primaries and conventions of his party.

"If he would be sure that in so doing he will not accomplish more harm than good, he must thoroughly inform himself upon all public questions, and endeavor to have his party in its declaration of principles and choice of candidates seek to accomplish the greatest good for the greatest number.

"When a President, and Vice-President of the United States are to be elected, a separate set of county and state conventions is held for the purpose of choosing delegates to represent the state in the national codventions of the respective political parties. These national conventions of the various parties nominate the candidate for President, and Vice-President. The people do not vote directly for the President and Vice-President.

"After the national conventions have been held, and when the state conventions for the nomination of state officers are convened, each party nominates a certain number of men for Presidential Electors. The names of these men go upon the official ballot. After the election is over, the Presidential

Electors who have been elected in this state meet with the Electors who have been chosen from the other states, in what is called the Electoral College. This body of men elects the President, and the Vice-President of the United States. In the constitution of the Electoral College each state is entitled to a certain number of Electors, corresponding to its population. This state is entitled to four.

"If the Presidential Electors named by the Democratic party, for instance. at its state convention, receive the largest number of votes in this state, when they meet with the Electors of the other states in the Electoral College, they will vote for the men for President and Vice-President who were nominated at the Democratic national convention.

"While the people do not vote directly for the President and Vice-President, yet you see the will of the people of the country prevails in the choice of these officers.

"City and town elections are held in much the same way, conventions being called by the various political parties, and nominations made for the offices which are to be filled.

"I told you at the beginning of our discussion something with reference to school elections.

"If a man desires to have any influence in the naming of candidates for public offices, and in the shaping of the policy which shall control in the city, the county, the state or the nation, it is necessary for him to ally himself with some political party. In doing this, when you become old enough to take part in these matters, I trust you will be governed only by a careful and thorough examination of the principles which the various parties represent. Too often, young men coming to the age when under the law they are entitled to vote, thought-

lessly ally themselves with the political party with which their fathers are connected.

"When my boys come to the age when it is their duty and their privilege to take some part in public affairs, I trust they will think for themselves, and not allow my judgment in political matters to shape their opinions. Nothing but independence of thought and integrity of purpose, coupled with a fair measure of intelligence on the part of the individual voter, can make a government like ours worth having.

"This ends the discussion Tommy started as we rode home from town on election day. The subject of local government has not received the attention in our public schools which I think it should have received. I hope it may some day be included in the course of study adopted by the State Board of Education."

"Why, papa," exclaimed Dora, "I should think you would write a book about it."

"Perhaps I may," answered her father.

And he did.

SUMMARY.

Political parties. State conventions. County conventions. Official ballot. National conventions. Electoral college.

INDEX.

Adjutant General 95
Agricultural College 144
Appeals in Supreme Court 133
Apportionment school funds, county 74
" " " state 142
Appropriations, legislative 85
Assessor, county 31
Attorney General 137
Auditor, county 34
" state 98

Ballot 5, 159
" box 5
Bills against county, how paid 27
" " state, how paid 98
Board of Audit and Control 117
" Coal Mine Examiners 130
" Dental Examiners 128
" Education 143
" Equalization, county 34
" " state 120
" Fish Commissioners 122
" Health 127
" Medical Examiners 127
" Pharmacy 128
" State Land Commissioners 110

Bonds, appearance 69
" official 48
" county 44
" school district 19
" state 111
Bureau of Labor 126

Capitol Commission 129
City government 146
Civil cases, trial of 55
Coal mine inspectors 129
Commissioner of Horticulture 130
" Insurance 97
" Public Institutions 117
" Public Lands 107

Committees, legislative..... 83
Constables..... 70
Constitution, state..... 80
" federal..... 151
Conventions, county..... 159
" state..... 159
" national..... 161
County Assessor..... 31
" Auditor..... 34
" Clerk..... 58
" Commissioners..... 26
" Coroner..... 66
" government..... 23
" funds, general.....42, 44
" " special..... 46
" Sheriff..... 63
" Superintendent of Schools..... 72
" Surveyor..... 49
" Treasurer..... 40
Court house..... 27
Criminal cases, trial of..... 56

Dairy Commissioners..... 125
" Commissioner..... 126
Detail lists..... 32

Election scene..... 2
" school..... 20
Electoral college..... 162
Electors, presidential..... 161
Execution..... 64
Extra session Legislature..... 92
Extradition..... 94

Federal government..... 150
Felony..... 65
Fish Commissioner..... 122
Fugitives from justice..... 94
Funds, county, general..... 42
" " special..... 46
" state, general..... 105
" " special..... 106

Government, definition..... 9
" origin..... 10
" reason for..... 11
" necessity..... 12
" lands..... 156

Governor 91
Grain Commissioner 123
Grants, land 107
" " selection of 108
" " disposition of 109

Harbor areas 113
House of Representatives 82

Indictment 60
Information, criminal 61
Insane asylums 117
Institutions higher education 144

Judicial districts 53
Jury, petit 54
" grand 59
Justices of the Peace 67

Land grants, state 107
" " selection of 108
" " disposition of 109
Laws, method of enactment 83
Legislature 82
Library, state 124
Library, commission 124
Lieutenant Governor 83

Marriage licenses 37
Militia, state 95
Misdemeanor 65
Municipal government 146

Normal schools 144
Notaries Public 125
Pardons 92
Paroles 93
Penitentiary 119
Polls 5
President, election of 161
Precinct, election 3
Primaries 159
Probate business 57
Prosecuting Attorney 59
Public schools 70

Records concerning real estate 36
Reform school 119
Riots, suppression of 94
Secretary of state 96
Senate, state 82
Senator, United States, election of 86

School census 73
" district 15
" election 20
" funds, county, apportionment of 74
" " state " " 142
" for defective youth 144
" government 16
" house 18
" tax 18
Schools, public 70
Sheriff 63
Soldiers' home 119
State Auditor 98
" funds, general 105
" " special 106
" Government 77
" Grain Commission 123
" land grants 107
" " " selection of 108
" " " disposition of 109
" Land Commissioners, Board of 110
" library 124
" Treasurer 103
Superintendent of Public Instruction 141
" " schools, county 72
Subpoena 64
Summons 64
Superior court 57
Superior Judge 53
Supreme court 133
" " procedure in 134
" " reporter 136
" " reports 136
Tax levy, county 28, 35, 41
" " state 120
" rolls 32, 35
Taxes, collection of 40
" segregation of 43
Teachers' reports 73
" examinations 74
Tide lands 112
University, state 144
United States government 150
Veto, Governor's 87
Voters, qualifications 8, 21
Vouchers, state 99

Warrants, county 44 48
" state 99, 100, 104
Warrant, criminal 64

5 Plate